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Japan

President Bush Meets LDP Leader Watanabe

OW2405020890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0044 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Washington, May 23 KYODO—President George Bush told veteran Japanese politician Michio Watanabe on Wednesday that the United States is studying from a broad point of view whether to extend most-favored-nation trade status to China.

Bush was responding to Watanabe's suggestion that Washington show flexibility in its policy toward China, Japanese officials said.

Watanabe made a similar request during a meeting with Secretary of State James Baker on Tuesday.

U.S. officials say Bush will announce his decision by the end of this week on whether or not to continue allowing preferential tariffs on Chinese products despite alleged human rights violations in China.

Bush told the former Japanese finance minister that the U.S. and Japan need to keep pace and take concerted action on any problem. The President was quoted as saying he would like to meet separately with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu prior to the June 9-11 economic summit in Houston, the officials said.

Watanabe, leader of one of five major factions of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), told reporters later that Kaifu will visit Washington to meet Bush before heading to Houston to attend the summit of seven major economic powers.

Watanabe briefed the President on his visit to China and Vietnam earlier this month, the officials said. While in China, Watanabe met Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, and Premier Li Peng, and in Vietnam he met Vietnamese Communist Party leader Nguyen Van Linh and Premier Do Muoi.

Watanabe, who will return home Saturday after a six-day trip to the U.S., replaced former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone as head of the LDP's fourth-largest power group after the February general election.

U.S. Extension of PRC MFN Status 'Welcomed'

OW2505074790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0719 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 KYODO—A Foreign Ministry spokesman on Friday welcomed U.S. President George Bush's decision the previous day to extend most-favored-nation (MFN) status for China for another year after the current agreement ends on June 3.

"This is welcomed by Japan as a contribution to an improved Sino-American relations," said Spokesman Taizo Watanabe in a statement released by the ministry.

"A stable U.S.-China relationship is not only an essential ingredient for the maintenance of peace and stability in the Asia- Pacific, but is also conducive to the stable development of Japan- China relations," the statement said.

The statement further called on the United States and China to continue to make mutual efforts at improving their relations.

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu sent a letter to Bush earlier in the week asking him to continue MFN status for China.

Michio Watanabe, a former finance minister and leader of a major faction in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), issued a similar plea last Tuesday in a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

U.S. Congressman Threatens To Submit Rice Bill

OW2305064190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0425 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Washington, May 22 KYODO—A U.S. Congressman warned Tuesday he will submit a bill "against Japan" if Tokyo does not open its rice market to imports under the ongoing multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Meeting a group of Japanese reporters, Rep. Beryl Anthony, a Democrat from the rice-growing state of Arkansas, said what U.S. rice growers want is to see the Japanese market open to imports, even partially.

He said it is more important for Japan to import 10 percent of its domestic rice demand, or roughly one million tons a year, than to fully open the market as sought by the U.S. Government.

Opening the Japanese rice market should serve to improve U.S.-Japan relations in the long run even though it may not serve to rectify the 49 billion dollar U.S. trade deficit with Japan, he said.

In discussions under the Uruguay Round of world trade talks, Japan has argued it should be allowed to continue its ban on rice imports and other protective measures on the grounds of food security as rice is a staple food for the Japanese.

But Washington has attacked Japan for its protective rice policy and called for full liberalization of the Japanese market.

In a related development, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter blasted his Japanese counterpart Tomio Yamamoto Monday for reportedly saying that the United States had interfered in Japan's internal affairs by its call for liberalization of the rice market.

Yamamoto reportedly said Japan would not tolerate further meddling by U.S. officials in its rice policy.

Kaifu Concerned About Trade Friction With U.S.

OW2505124990 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, speaking about Japan-U.S. friction at the House of Councillors Budget Committee on 22 May, said that immediate tasks have been resolved but careful attention is necessary for medium- and long-term tasks. The prime minister was responding to Mr. Masao Kunishiro of the Japan Socialist Party who asked the prime minister about future Japan-U.S. economic friction in view of the interim report of the Japan-U.S. Structural Impediments Initiative [SII] talks.

The prime minister said both Japan and the United States are satisfied with the interim report. He added he was relieved that no additional item was placed under the Super 301 provision of the U.S. Trade Act.

He said every effort is being made now so that Japan and the United States can agree on a mutually acceptable final report of the SII talks. However, he admitted that in the medium to long terms, Japan and the United States having different historical and cultural backgrounds, new problems might arise between them and careful attention is necessary.

Trade Ministry Notice on Retail Stores Law

OW2405214790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Thursday issued a set of official notices to local governments and private commercial organizations, pronouncing a substantial relaxation of the law that restricts the opening of large-sized retail stores, MITI officials said.

The new administrative guidelines state that the coordination processing period for opening large stores be shortened to within 18 months.

The notices are the first major embodiment of the various promises Japan made in an interim report published in April at the end of the so-called Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks with the United States.

They are aimed at cutting down the administrative logjam in implementation of the large-scale retail store law that has sometimes caused a 10-year delay in the opening of such retail stores.

They also make coordination with local small store owners unnecessary for an increase of up to 100 square meters in floor space if the increased part is used exclusively for sales of imported goods.

Coordination procedures are also exempted for a floor space increase of up to 10 percent of the existing floor space or 50 square meters, whichever is smaller.

Another major improvement in the enforcement of the law is a virtual scrapping of the restrictions now imposed on opening large stores in small towns or villages, or areas where there already is a considerable number of large stores in operation.

The notices will be effective as of May 30, MITI officials said.

Onna Villagers Protest Urban Combat Training

OW2405052690 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 17 May 90 Morning Edition p 23

[Text] Onna—Live firing exercises should never be allowed. The Onna Village Executive Committee for Opposing Urban Combat Training Facilities (with Village Mayor Shigemasa Higa as chairman) called an emergency meeting at the Onna District Monitoring Hut at 1800 on 16 May to protest the U.S. Forces live firing exercise which started at the urban combat training facilities on the same day. Although the meeting was held at short notice, some 300 villagers, young and old, showed up. This indicated the villagers' apprehensions about, and indignation at, live firing exercises. The Executive Committee has decided to carry on the struggle for stopping live fire training. The committee has also started action to appeal to the prefectural assembly and to the Dietmen elected from the prefecture. Thereby, the committee has decided on strongly appealing to the prefectural and central governments on the opposition movement.

Villagers have long anticipated that the U.S. forces would use helicopters when starting live fire exercises. When the exercise actually started, their indignation reached its peak.

Village Mayor Higa stressed as follows: "We have maintained that live fire exercises should never be allowed, and we have fought to stop them. However, paying no attention to our appeal, the U.S. forces have started the exercise. Therefore, we angrily protest. While carrying on our protest movement, we would, at the same time, strongly appeal to the central and prefectural governments for a settlement of this problem."

Meanwhile, Kaichi Ikehara, chairman of the Struggle Committee, appealed as follows: "Waterworks in Onna District have been contaminated by red clay. Just as the district residents were going all-out to repair them, they started the live fire exercise. This certainly cannot be allowed. We must further expand our opposition movement."

Onna District Chief Norio Igei stated that "protests would be held against U.S. forces for using large helicopters in training and strong struggles would be persistently continued."

Speaking on behalf of the residents, Ritsuko Shinzato stressed as follows: "We felt that the U.S. troops had eventually arrived. Our protest movement has expanded to mainland Japan, too. Since the U.S. forces exercises also involve a serious problem of destroying the environment, such exercises should never be allowed."

Prefectural assemblymen elected from the Japanese Communist Party and the Okinawa Socialist Masses Party also attended the meeting to encourage the residents.

After the meeting, all the participants marched to Range 7's gate in demonstration, while shouting such slogans as "Never Let Them Shell Mount Onna," "Let Us Protect Precious Water," and "Stop All Military Exercises!"

Cement Industry Denies U.S. Dumping Claim

OW2305095690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0639 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—Japan's cement industry reacted coolly Wednesday to an antidumping petition filed on Tuesday by a Southern California-based cement producers' association. The petition was filed with the U.S. Commerce Department by the ad hoc committee of Southern California producers of gray Portland cement charging that Japanese-made cement is being sold in the United States at less than fair value.

Japanese cement industry officials said no single Japanese cement maker has sold its products below fair market value. They said similar petitions filed previously invariably proved to be unfounded. The sources said five or six Japanese companies were directly connected with the antidumping suit this time. They include Onoda Cement Co. and Mitsubishi Mining and Cement Co., both of which are producing cement at their factories in the Southern California region.

Following presentation of the petition, the Commerce Department will begin a probe into the matter from June 7 and is expected to make a tentative decision at the end of October, the sources said.

Further Coverage of Visit by ROK's No Tae-u

No Tae-u Addresses Diet

OW2505084690 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese and Korean 0044 GMT 25 May 90

[ROK President No Tae-u Address to the Japanese Diet given in the House of Representatives main chamber on 25 May; No speaks in Korean with simultaneous Japanese translation provided in subtitles; following is from the Korean—live]

[Text] The Honorable President of the House of Representatives, the Honorable President of the House of Councillors, esteemed members of the Diet:

It is an honor and privilege for me to be the first Korean head of state ever to speak before the Japanese Diet. [applause] This is so especially because in this hall, the pivotal point of the 100-year evolution of Japan's parliamentarianism, you represent the 130 million people who have built one of the most prosperous and vibrant democracies in the world.

My appearance on this podium today is a consequence of the dreams and sacrifices of many far-sighted leaders in the cause of the future of Korean-Japanese relations, in particular, and the Orient, in general, over a turbulent history. I am thankful that history has evolved to fulfill the hope of our numerous ancestors to see genuinely neighborly and amicable relations established between our two nations on the principle of reciprocity and equality. Deep emotions and numerous thoughts thus race through my mind as I speak.

I am grateful to the presidents of both houses of the Diet, the leaders of the various political parties represented here, and all members of the Diet for affording me this precious opportunity. At the same time, I wish to convey the warm and friendly greetings from the people of the Republic of Korea to the people of Japan. [applause]

I am visiting Japan in the conviction that our nations—Korea and Japan—must become partners who become closer and closer to each other, based on mutual respect and understanding. Out of an ardent desire to see us, as next-door neighbors, now forge future-oriented ties amidst tremendous changes now sweeping the world as it nears the 21st century, I would like to express my frank views before this distinguished audience.

Korea and Japan each started building a new nation following the end of World War II. Great changes have since occurred in both countries. Both our nations have transformed many things and made great achievements.

Rising from the ruins of war, the Japanese people have developed their land into an economic power house that is the envy of the world. Japan is now advancing in the forefront of science and technology also. The spirits of capitalism and parliamentary democracy, which sprouted in Europe, are now blooming here in Japan, a faraway land in the East. During the latter half of the 19th century, when far-sighted Asian leaders urged the blending of Eastern values with Western know-how, Japan began pursuing a dream of overtaking the West. Having realized that dream, Japan has successfully embarked on creative efforts to fuse its national heritage with things Western to create a new culture. I pay homage to the Japanese people and leaders for this great accomplishment.

On the other hand, the joy of the Korean people over liberation from colonial rule 45 years ago gave way to a sorrow over national partitioning the next morning. As if this was not misfortune enough, our people were plunged into another national disaster. One Sunday in June 1950, at dawn, an all-out invasion from North Korea turned the cold war polarizing the postwar world into a hot, savage conflict on the Korean peninsula. The three-year conflagration of the Korean War caused not only the loss of millions of innocent lives but also deprived us of every possession.

Around the beginning of the 1960's, when the Korean people were beginning earnest efforts to develop their just-rebuilt national economy, they watched the spectacle of the Tokyo Olympics with envy. Japan's development gave us confidence and courage.

Overcoming their ordeals and despair, the Korean people rose to build a better tomorrow. Development was a formidable challenge—a nearly impossible proposition—for the Republic of Korea, which had virtually no natural resources, no capital, and no technology. And yet, our people did not lose hope or give up. Through hard work and sacrifice over a generation, the republic has emerged as a newly industrialized country.

The Korean people hosted the Seoul Olympics as a magnificent festival of peace which brought the East and the West together for the first time in 12 years. In the very trouble spot where young people from 20 countries fought bloody battles 38 years before, young people from around the world joined hands to surmount all divisive barriers and forge bonds of harmony.

Our achievements wrought against all odds represent a valuable triumph against a dark history. [applause] We Koreans are very proud of the fact that Korea's rapid development has set an example for many countries in the Third World and the East Bloc and that a country that has been tormented by a hot war as well as cold war confrontation has become able to contribute to the peace and harmony of mankind. [applause]

Another rewarding experience for the Korean people is their recent entry into an era of democracy. Throughout nearly 40 years of almost ceaseless internal and external turbulances, the Korean people have never given up their burning desire and determined struggle for freedom and democracy.

The new era, which was ushered in by the 29 June declaration of democratic reforms about three years ago, is characterized, among other things, by unrestricted freedom of speech and press, as well as unlimited political freedom. Korean democratization has meant sweeping changes not only in the Constitution and political institutions, but also in the whole system of values and the civic awareness of the general public. It has thus become impossible to understand the Korea of today by measuring it with an old yardstick.

I must frankly admit to you, esteemed members of the Diet, that it is truly difficult to practice democracy. In this regard, allow me to cite a portion of a poem by Han Yong-un, the noted poet and independence leader who died in 1944: I love you because, whereas others love only my youthful face and smile, you love even my gray hair, even my tears.

Just as the poet loved his homeland when it was darkened by an unfortunate twist of history, I believe we should cultivate democracy with love of even its most messy aspects. [applause] Although I cannot say that democracy is a system which can solve everything, nothing else enables humans to live like humans, society to be vital and vibrant, creativity to come into full play, and progress to occur as does democracy. In particular, I believe, only democracy can bring about a great age in which ordinary people willingly participate with a civic spirit to make their dreams come true.

Though Korean democratization is costing us dearly, it is nonetheless moving along the right direction. There will be no backtracking in this. It is a rewarding and delightful experience not only for myself but for all my fellow Koreans to renew here today our shared faith in freedom and democracy.

Esteemed members of the Diet, since the guns fell silent in World War II, enormous changes have occurred throughout the world, not just in our two countries. With the new century only 10 years away, we are now in the midst of great reforms intended to bring the 20th century to a constructive close.

The cold war strife and confrontation that have dominated the postwar world are now passing into history making way for the new tide of detente and cooperation now engulfing the globe. The burning human desire for freedom and democracy has breached the Berlin Wall and removed the iron curtain that has divided the East from the West. Even the Soviet Union is in the throes of reforms and the totalitarian regimes of East Europe have fallen like dominoes.

The European Community has instituted economic integration and is now moving toward even a political union. Owing to reforms in East Europe, it is most likely that the domain of a united Europe will extend to the Soviet borders. Human dignity, freedom, and multilateral democracy have thus begun to prevail as universal values. This worldwide change is breaking down not only the old concepts and systems but also the wall and borders of the past.

Esteemed members of the Diet, the challenges of the changing world are also great. Although we are eagerly looking forward to a new world order emerging to replace the cold war structure, it is still shrouded in the m[illegible] of uncertainties. Though the world now yearns for peace and harmony, with reason beginning to prevail over the logic of force, we still have a long way to go before this crystallizes into a new international order. Although arms control is making headway, fears that nuclear weapons may destroy human civilization at any moment have not been eliminated yet.

Uncertainties also plague the future of the world economy. Even the free trade regime that has brought unprecedented prosperity to the postwar world is being challenged. In other words, imbalances in world trade are giving rise to protectionism, leading to ever harsher trade friction; nor can we rule out the possibility of the rise of regional economic blocs. Although we wish that a united Europe will pursue openness, no one can say with confidence that it will never move in the opposite direction. The moves of Europe and the Soviet Union in the future are certainly of major concern to all of us. I acutely feel the importance of concerted efforts by our two nations to cope with these changes and challenges.

It is noted that Japan has now become the world's largest aid donor. We greatly appreciate Japan's endeavor to meet its noble obligations. Japan's contributions to the community of nations, I believe, will not be limited to the economic field but will include a leading role in realizing universal values throughout the world. The Republic of Korea is also vowing to fulfill its international responsibilities commensurate with its new status and capabilities.

Esteemed members of the Diet, the peace and unification of the Korean peninsula is not only a categorical imperative for the Korean people but a most important way to contribute to the well-being of this region in particular and the world at large. Few other countries have been as tormented over the last century by invasions, wars, and confrontation as Korea. The Korean people thus have a cherished desire for peace. We believe the way for Korea to constructively respond to the ordeals that the world has brought to it is by achieving peace in this part of the world. We are determined to achieve the peaceful unification of the Korean peninsula without fail during this century. The national division imposed on us by the cold war regime must not be allowed to continue into the next century. We are confident that as the unification of East and West Germany, which everyone had thought impossible, has now become a reality, and as the Olympics for the harmony of mankind was held in a divided land where the danger of war exists, the day when Korea is unified will come. [applause].

Still, the demilitarized zone that cuts across the Korean peninsula is yet to be unfrozen in spite of the wave of detente now sweeping the world. We are aware of this stern reality, better than anyone else. But, changes will take place in North Korea before long. North Korea will emerge onto the open world, and we will make every effort to that end.

North Korea must become our partner to build prosperity together as compatriots, no longer adversaries pitted against each other. We never want the isolation of North Korea. We, the same nation North and South, will form a national community and achieve unification under the principles of independence, peace, and democracy. In view of the rapid changes now sweeping the world, as well as our people's ardent wish for unification, a turn in inter-Korean relations would quickly lead to national integration.

Since last year, the Republic of Korea has established diplomatic relations with one East European country after another and is now actively pursuing improved relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China also. Our northern policy will not only contribute to common prosperity with those countries but will also help create conditions favorable to improving inter-Korean relations and achieving eventual unification. When peace and unification are achieved on the Korean peninsula, genuine peace will also come to East Asia and the world in general. [applause]

Esteemed members of the Diet, last November, I toured several East and West European countries at a time when the Berlin Wall was crumbling. I was thus able to acutely sense the powerful current of history pushing toward freedom, peace, openness, and prosperity. While right on the scene of the momentous changes, I deeply pondered the future of the Korean peninsula and East Asia.

Come to think of it, Northeast Asia, home to many people, has experienced five major wars over the last 100 years. Since the Korean War, however, a balance of power has preserved a fragile peace in this region. In light of the current new moves toward East-West detente, debate is now going on about how to readjust the roles of the superpowers and their policies in this part of the world. Still, many imponderables stand in the way of sufficient structural changes to ensure durable peace and lasting cooperation in this region. From now on, the ROK and Japan should carry out joint efforts in real earnest for the peace and prosperity of Northeast Asia.

Speaking before the United Nations General Assembly in late 1988, I proposed a multilateral Northeast Asian peace conference. It will take time for the political conditions to sufficiently change to make such a conference possible. This will include, among other things, a change of heart on the part of North Korea. Toward that end, it will be necessary to develop ties of cooperation among more willing nations in more feasible areas to promote the common interests of this part of the world. Cooperation among these Northeast Asian nations will be the prime mover to open up a bright future for the Asia-Pacific region.

For some time now, it has been predicted that the Asia-Pacific region will emerge as the hub of world civilization in the new century. We now see that prediction coming true. With boundless potential, this region is now erupting with dynamic development. I think it a mandate of our time to develop an Asia-Pacific community in keeping with the current trends toward regional integration in this increasingly multipolar world.

The well-being of both Japan and Korea in the 21st century will also be directly linked with the peace and prosperity of Asia and the Pacific. Our two countries must stand in the lead and open up the Pacific era as partners. To this end, we must build the areas of effective cooperation to contribute to all countries on the basis of the openness and diversity of this region. Our bilateral relationship is now no longer the concern of our two nations alone but is also the basis and focal point for Asia-Pacific cooperation.

Esteemed members of the Diet, over the 45 years since both Korea and Japan began to rebuild themselves into new nations, our bilateral relations have also undergone great changes. Our ties have been growing especially rapidly over the quarter century since our realticns were normalized. This is testimony that our bilateral relations are characterized by mutually beneficial interdependence.

This is particularly true in the economic field. Korea and Japan have now become the second largest trading partners to each other, next only to the United States of America. Having grown into the 10th largest trading nation in the world, the Republic of Korea now represents a $17 billion-a-year market for Japanese industry. Considering the fact that Japan's exports to Korea stood at a mere $200 million 25 years ago, it can be clearly seen that Korea's development contributes to Japan's prosperity also. The presence of a prospering country right next door will be a plus in the future for Japan also. Korea's development will also help strengthen the economy of East Asia as a whole. I entreat your cooperation so as to develop and strengthen trade and economic cooperation on a continuing basis. [applause]

Attention should be focused, among other things, on the chronic trade imbalance between Korea and Japan. We know your country is making multifaceted efforts to open your market to the United States and Europe and remedy your trade imbalances with them. I urge you to take steps also to materially redress trade imbalances with Korea with a similar determination.

Some point out that Japan is reluctant to transfer its technology to Korea for fear of increased competition. Increases in Korea's exports may indeed pose some competition for Japanese businesses in overseas markets. However, it would be myopic to focus only on such minor possibilities. It must be noted that rises in exports from my country have always led to rises in our imports from Japan at a similar pace. It is my sincere hope that with the realization that Korea's development is in the best interest of Japan also, you will join us in urging and promoting active technological and scientific cooperation between our two countries.

The growth in our bilateral ties has not been limited to the economic field. Nowadays, 2 million people travel between our two countries each year, with private-level exchanges and cooperation in the political, economic, social, cultural, and other fields expanding at an encouraging rate. In particular, exchanges between young Koreans and Japanese are expanding rapidly, and efforts in both countries to study and understand each other are growing more and more enthusiastically. Now, the relations between our two countries should shift to an era of all-around good-neighborliness and friendship in which all people exchange and cooperate with each other in all areas, including political and economic areas. [applause]

Esteemed members of the Diet, even though nearly all things have changed and great overall development and progress have occurred, there still remains a psychological barrier that hinders the evolution of genuine friendship between our two peoples. The perceptions and emotions of the Korean and Japanese people about past mistakes are yet to be sorted out even now, when, with the passage of 45 years since the end of World War II, European countries that fought each other in that all-devastating, savage conflict are banding together in a single community. In other words, the negative vestiges of the past era continue to hamper the development of our bilateral ties.

For example, I believe you find it difficult to understand the heartache of a Korean child who was whipped by his teacher for using his own name—not the Japanese name imposed on him—and for using his own native language that he had learned at his mother's bosom. It is not necessary, however, to recount here all the sufferings and trials—the stupendous tragedies—that our people experienced during the past period of darkness. Koreans today merely reflect upon the fact that we were too weak to defend ourselves. We do not dwell on the past and blame or resent any others for what befell us.

What I would like to tell you today is only this: There must be true understanding between our two peoples on the basis of truth so that a bright future can be ensured for our bilateral relationship. [applause]

It should be noted that the French, German, and British peoples are now forming one European family; they are able to join together in opening a new chapter of history, having put the past fully behind them on the strength of truth. Even God cannot change what happened in the past. However, history is a question of how we interpret and understand things past. This means that depending on how we do it, we now have an opportunity to break off the shackles of the past and clean up negative residues of what went on in bygone days. All that is required is the courage and effort of all of us.

What I would like to particularly mention to you in this regard is the question of the 700,000 Koreans who have come to live in Japan by a quirk of history. Together with the Japanese, they went though the horrors of war, and after the war they participated in the reconstruction and development of their host country. Only when they are able to live in this land as good neighbors of the Japanese and without artificial inconvenience, will both our peoples feel genuine friendship toward each other.

Japan has now become a new country, much different from what it used to be. When Japan fully opens up to history and the world, it will be able to present a new image, especially to Asians.

Esteemed members of the Diet, if you stand on a beach in Pusan on a clear day, you can see a hazy blue image of the Tsushima Islands on the horizon. I think you can see the lights of Pusan from there. From prehistoric times, our two peoples have traveled across this narrow strait to conduct exchanges as next-door neighbors. In particular, the ancient culture of the Korean peninsula was transmitted to the Japanese Archipelago and a wave of modernization found its way to the Korean peninsula from Japan.

The royal envoy from the Chosun Kingdom was the only foreign envoy allowed to enter Edo under the isolationist policy of the Tokugawa Shogunate. The long route from Izuhara to Edo was strewn with a long series of amicable meetings between the Chosun royal mission and local Japanese officials and scholars.

The unhappy phase between our two countries is a short one relative to the long history of friendly and neighborly association. As a Japanese proverb goes, water that has flowed by cannot turn the water mill. Yes, indeed. However, new water keeps flowing in to run the mill. An era of genuine neighborliness and friendship between our two nations will also start over in a like manner.

The tea ceremony that the Japanese have long cultivated with loving care harmonizes the artistry of ancient Korean potters embodied in the tea cup and the spirit of imaculateness and philosophical values cherished by your people. In this, there is no sense of persecution or superiority on either side. All there is to it are the beauty and vitalty that can only be found in the harmony between nature and man. Such is also the hallmark of a genuine neighborly relationship. Since our two nations share common ideals, we should march hand in hand on the strength of such a relationship toward the world and the future. [applause]

Shall we not join efforts in building a more peaceful and prosperous world filled with freedom and happiness as near and close neighbors and friends trusting each other? [applause]

Let us work together to forge the 21st century into an age in which young Japanese from Tokyo will be traveling to Seoul via undersea tunnels beneath the Korean straits to join their Korean friends on a journey to Beijing, Moscow, Paris, and London—on a tour of friendship to link continents and make all humanity one family.

Thank you for listening.

Kaifu Praises Speech

OW2505074090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0646 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Friday praised the speech to the Diet made by South Korean President No Tae-u, saying the speech was impressive and reflected No's experience of the 1987 proclamation of democratization in Seoul. Kaifu made the remark in reply to questions from reporters after No's 30-minute speech before about 750 lower and upper house parliamentarians in the Diet.

No, then a chairman of the now-defunct Democratic Justice Party, declared democratization in South Korea in June 1987 by agreeing to direct presidential elections after having talks with then-president Chon Tu-hwan.

Japan's opposition party leaders also hailed No's speech, saying it indicates ways of constructing future friendly relations between the two countries.

Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi said, "No suggested Japan and South Korea will be able to build friendly relations through sharing a common recognition of history."

Koshiro Ishida, chairman of the neo-Buddhist Komeito Party, said, "I feel the Japanese people should understand that Japan and South Korea will be able to construct friendly bilateral relations only if the Japanese fully realize the pains and plight of Korean people inflicted by the Japanese colonization."

Democratic Socialist Party leader Keigo Ouchi said he is convinced No's speech is a starting point for building new friendly relations between the two countries.

Japan Communist Party Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa said the speech provides a chance for the Japanese people to tackle current and past issues, including Japan's colonization of the Korean peninsula between 1910 and 1945.

United Social Democratic Party representative Satsuki Eda said it is important for president No to appeal for the Japanese and Korean people to demolish "the wall in the heart" between them to build closer cooperation between Japan and South Korea in East Asia and the world as a whole.

Kaifu Gives Apology

OW2405144790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1315 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, in a meeting with South Korean President No Tae-u on Thursday, expressed his "sincere remorse and honest apologies" for Japan's past actions on the Korea peninsula before and during World War II, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

"I would like to take the opportunity of Your Excellency's visit to express my sincere remorse and honest apologies for the fact that there was a period in our history in which Japanese actions inflicted unbearable suffering and sorrow on the people of the Korean peninsula," Kaifu was quoted as telling No.

Kaifu issued the apology, which was unprecedented in its directness and clarity, in an hour-long meeting with No at the Akasaka state guest house, the first of two rounds of summit talks between the two leaders during No's three-day state visit here.

No, who held a private discussion with Emperor Akihito earlier in the day at the Imperial Palace, was positive in his appraisal of Kaifu's apology, which he said was based on a "correct understanding" of the regretful past history between the two neighboring nations.

In the light of previous Japanese Government statements which appeared to skirt the issue of responsibility, Kaifu's apology this time appeared to meet Seoul's expectations that Japan issue a sincere apology, identifying both the party which colonized Korea and the party which suffered as a consequence.

In the talks, Kaifu also announced that Japan is considering providing some 4 billion yen in financial assistance for medical services for Korean victims of the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki now residing in South Korea, officials said.

After the meeting Kaifu told reporters he felt the frank talks had helped clear the way for a new era.

"I think we have achieved a demarcation as Japan-Korean relations head toward the 21st century," Kaifu said.

Earlier in the day, Emperor Akihito told No he was reminded of the closeness of the two nations during a recent trip to Nagasaki, located across the Japan sea from South Korea.

No later received courtesy calls by opposition party leaders, and former Prime Ministers Yasuhiro Nakasone and Noboru Takeshita.

Nakasone told reporters after meeting with No he was hopeful that Emperor Akihito's remarks would pave the way for an imperial visit to South Korea.

No's meeting with Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi was the first ever between leaders of South Korea's ruling party and Japan's leading opposition party, which maintains close ties with North Korea.

No is scheduled to hold a second round of talks with Kaifu on Saturday.

Akihito Apology Viewed

OW2505034890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0311 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Washington, May 24 KYODO—Conservative Japanese Diet member Shintaro Ishihara on Thursday denounced the government for getting Emperor Akihito involved in an apology controversy with South Korea.

"I am absolutely against the use of the Emperor" in making an official apology for Japan's colonial rule of Korea, Ishihara told an audience of about 300 people at a hotel here.

Co-author of the best-seller "The Japan That Can Say 'No'," Ishihara also said the imperial apology is "a violation of the Japanese Constitution." He said Japan has apologized to South Korea in the past and is prepared to do so again if asked.

At the outset of his 90-minute appearance before the Asia Society audience, Ishihara introduced himself, saying "I am the notorious Ishihara" in English.

He attributed the main source of the Japan-U.S. trade imbalance to differing free capitalist economies, comparing the American corporate system to a Latin American dictatorship.

"American management lays off employees so easily without any mercy," Ishihara said. But he made no mention of racism in the United States in his speech or the ensuing question and answer session.

A member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] who lost the fight for Japanese premiership to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu last year, Ishihara castigated Kaifu for allegedly making too many trade concessions to the U.S.

"The concessions came as Kaifu switched factions from the LDP's smallest faction to the Bush faction," the novelist-turned-polician said, drawing laughter from the audience.

Countering a U.S. request for a 24-hour automatic teller machine service in Japan, Ishihara suggested a 50 percent reduction in such machines in the U.S. as a means to boost the savings rate in that country.

During a town meeting in Michigan last week, Ishihara advocated "self-reliance" by American workers to improve U.S. competitiveness rather than pinning the blame of the trade problem on the Japanese.

At the Washington meeting, Ishihara came to the defense of Clyde Prestowitz and James Fallows, who are often portrayed as "Japan bashers."

The problem is that "too many U.S. politicians" have little knowledge about the complexities of Japan-U.S. relations, Ishihara said.

ROK Reaction to Apology

OW2405162090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1522 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 24 KYODO—The South Korean Government signaled its satisfaction Thursday with Emperor Akihito's apology for the 1910-1945 colonization of Korea, as students and relatives of the war-dead launched protests against President No Tae-u's three-day visit to Japan.

"It is difficult to say that the Emperor's apology sufficiently meets the expectations of the Korean people, but we value the considerable effort Japan has made to meet our requests," said Deputy Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha.

"We will not bring up the matter of the Emperor's apology again," he said.

Emperor Akihito told No in a welcoming banquet that he felt "deepest regret" for the suffering experienced by the Korean people as a result of Japan's colonial rule.

Meanwhile in Seoul and Kwangju, several thousand protesters demonstrated against No's visit, with some calling the apology insincere.

Some 100 South Koreans who lost relatives during World War II gathered outside the ruling Democratic Liberal Party's headquarters after being turned away from the Japanese Embassy by riot police.

"We are against this Japan visit, which delivers no compensation for the victims of colonization," they shouted.

Nam Man-u, leader of a group of relatives of independence fighters, said the apology was produced by diplomatic trade-offs rather than from genuine conviction.

The Emperor's apology, delivered at a welcoming banquet for No, capped two weeks of diplomatic wrangling. Seoul urged a clear-cut expression of repentance, but Tokyo balked at a full-fledged apology by the Emperor, which political leaders said would violate a constitutional stipulation that the Emperor remain apart from politics.

"Emperor Akihito will not set foot on Korean soil," Nam declared.

Opposition Parties React

OW2405170190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1507 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Official reaction from four Japanese opposition parties to Emperor Akihito's speech on Japan's past colonization of Korea indicates the parties expect South Korea to understand Japan's regret for the colonization.

Emperor Akihito expressed "deepest regret" for the "unfortunate period" in a speech at a banquet for South Korean President No Tae-u at the Imperial Palace on Thursday.

"I think of the suffering your people underwent during this unfortunate period, which was brought about by my country, and cannot but feel the deepest regret," the Emperor said.

The Japan Socialist Party [JSP] said it considered that Emperor Akihito, speaking as a symbol of the Japanese people in accordance with the Constitution, had given "a frank expression" of apology to the Koreans in his speech.

The Komeito said Emperor Akihito's remark was appropriate, given his status as stipulated in the Constitution. The Democratic Socialist Party and the United Social Democratic Party also said they expected the South Korean people to understand the deep regret of Japan and the Japanese people over the colonization of Korea between 1910 and 1945 following the Emperor's remarks.

The Japan Communist Party (JCP), however, accused the Japanese Government of permitting the Emperor to make a political remark in connection with his apology to the South Korean people over the colonization.

The JSP, in its assessment of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's remarks to No, said Kaifu's reference to Japan's colonization of Korea had been "good."

The JSP said Kaifu made a "frank" apology to Asian and South Korean people for Japan's aggression toward Asia during World War II and its colonization of Korea.

Kaifu expressed his apology over the Japanese colonization of Korea during the first round of talks with South Korean President No Tae-u.

The JSP also said the Diet should pass a resolution expressing regret for the colonization of Korea as the general will of the Japanese people.

No Says Issue 'Settled'

OW2505120590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1000 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (KYODO)—Visiting South Korean President No Tae-u said here Friday that a remark made by the Japanese emperor Thursday was clearly an apology for Japan's colonial rule on the Korean peninsula and settled the issue completely, informed sources said.

No made the comment in a meeting with South Korea reporters at the Akasaka State Guesthouse.

The president was referring to Emperor Akihito's remark made on Thursday at the state banquest for No.

The emperor said at the banquet "I think of the sufferings your people underwent during this unfortunate period, which was brought about by my country, and cannot but feel the deepest regret."

"I think it (the emperor's statement) was clearly an apology that seemed to have gone a little beyond domestic conditions in Japan," No was quoted as telling Korean reporters. He said, "The essential problem (between the two countries) has been solved," according to the sources.

When reporters recalled No's hopes expressed prior to his visit that the emperor would distinguish who was the aggressor and who the victim, No told them the spirit expressed in the emperor's words Thursday night fully met the Korean demand, they said.

The Japanese Government has shown strong resistance to an explicit apology by the emperor, citing his role as a symbol under the postwar Constitution, which bans his involvement in political affairs. No said that, judging from what the emperor said officially and unofficially, he confirmed that Emperor Akihito held the same view as Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu who had expressed "sincere remorse and honest apologies" for Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea in his first meeting with No on Thursday. No refrained from disclosing the contents of his private conversations with the emperor on two occasions, the first on Thursday immediately after his arrival here and the second today as the two men strolled around the Akasaka Imperial Garden. He said that it was in accordance with Japanese traditions to withhold what the emperor said in private talks.

Resident Issue Considered

SK2505033890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0156 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (YONHAP)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu pledged Thursday [24 May] to make efforts to correct institutional discrimination against first- and second-generation Korean residents in Japan based on the contents of the Seoul-Tokyo agreement on improving the legal status of third-generation Koreans.

"I will consider positively, with the concern of the Korean Government and President No Tae-u in mind, the matter of first- and second-generation Korean residents," the Japanese premier said during talks on the first day of No's three-day state visit to Japan.

In the talks, No asked the Japanese Government to extend the scope of the bilateral agreement on alleviating restrictive institutions, including the fingerprinting of aliens, to cover not only third-generation Koreans but also first- and second-generation Koreans.

Kaifu vowed to exert himself to bring a satisfactory result in regard to Seoul's requests that resident Koreans be entitled to employment as public servants in local governments and as teachers in national and public schools.

The premier said Japan would create a fund of 4 billion yen (20 billion won, or 28.5 million U.S. dollars) to aid Korean victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II in 1945. Details of the fund will be ironed out by working-level officials from both sides.

Kaifu said the Japanese Government will cooperate with Seoul in facilitating visits of Koreans living on the Soviet island of Sakhalin. The Koreans were taken to the then-Japanese territory for forced labor during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula (1910-45).

Meanwhile, Korean Science-Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo and Masaji Yamamoto, Japan's director-general of the Agency for Resources and Energy, met Thursday afternoon to discuss mutual cooperation in the nuclear technology field.

The two agreed to expand their cooperation in the nuclear safety and nuclear technology development.

In preparation for nuclear accidents, the two nations will establish a hotline and will exchange technology on the safety examination and permission of nuclear facilities as well as push for a joint study.

Resolution Urged

SK2505110090 Seoul YONHAP in English 1029 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u called on the Japanese Government Friday to make efforts to "resolve the problems of Koreans who have come to live in Japan as a result an unfortunate twist of history. Only when Korean residents in Japan are able to live in this land without inconvenience, as bona fide citizens, will our two peoples feel heart-to-heart friendship with each other," No said in a speech at a state dinner hosted by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

The Korean president, here on a three-day state visit, said he hoped to liquidate the vestiges of Japan's occupation of Korea from 1910 to 1945.

"We now see Europe removing its internal borders to become a single community putting the past behind it by accepting history just as it is," No said. "Our two nations must likewise remove the unfortunate vestiges of the past in keeping with a genuine sense of history and climb together onto a higher level of neighborly and amicable ties."

He said Korea and Japan have a "momentous" task to help accelerate global progress and promote the well-being of mankind. "Our two countries are destined to be next-door neighbors from the beginning of time to eternity. Riding together the new wave of reconciliation and cooperation now sweeping the world, our two nations must become close neighbors in spirit as well as geographically," No said.

The president also said he was convinced the two countries should become closer partners in endeavoring to bring peace and prosperity throughout northeast Asia, which has experienced five major wars over the past 100 years, and usher in an Asia-Pacific age by the next century. He hailed the "rapidly evolving" relations that have led to Japan and Korea becoming each other's second largest trading partners and noted that more than 2 million people now travel between the two nations each year.

"Not only has cooperation between our two governments grown closer but many forms of people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in the political, economic, social, cultural, artistic, athletic and other fields have also steadily expanded in a friendly atmosphere, all to our encouragement," No said.

Discussion on Future Ties

OW2505151690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (KYODO)—South Korean President No Tae-u on Friday, at a banquet held in his honor by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, called for a "future-oriented" relationship with Japan which "brings forth magnificent flowers and abundant fruit."

Kaifu, meanwhile, reiterated Japan's "sincere remorse and honest apologies" for its past actions on the Korean peninsula and said that only when Japan's efforts to rehabilitate itself in the eyes of the Koreans are accepted can friendship between the two countries become "unshakable."

No, wrapping up the second of his three-day visit to Japan, pointed out the fact that South Korea and Japan, by virtue of their geography, are destined to be neighbors for "eternity." He said that as the two nations enter into the last decade of the 20th century, they must also become neighbors "in spirit," endeavoring together to "usher in an Asia-Pacific age by the 21st century."

No told his hosts, "We must make sure that the close relationship between our two countries brings forth magnificent flowers and abundant fruit and the deep fountain of friendship ceaselessly pours forth."

No added, however, that while bilateral ties have been "neighborly and friendly" in an overall historical context, "there has been an unhappy period in modern times. If what happened in the past still lingers on as a fetter for the present and future of our bilateral relations, we should muster the faith and courage to break it off," he said.

Kaifu acknowledged that the history between Japan and the Korean peninsula "cannot be described as always having been smooth." Reiterating sentiments conveyed to No on Thursday during the first of two rounds of summit talks, Kaifu expressed "sincere remorse and honest apologies for the fact that there was a period in our history in which Japanese actions inflicted unbearable suffering and sorrow on the people of the Korean peninsula."

He pledged to the South Korean president that Japan will intensify its efforts "to regain the trust of your country and the international community as a whole. The everlasting good neighborly relations and friendship between our two nations can become unshakable only when such efforts by Japan are accepted by your people," Kaifu said.

Kaifu noted that South Korea has achieved "dynamic growth" in recent years, giving rise to expectations from the international community for greater global contributions. Likewise, he said, Japan is being called on to play a major role. He said that as neighboring countries sharing common values of freedom and democracy, "our two countries must further elevate the level of cooperative relations and live up to the expectations of the world."

Noting such momentous events of recent times as the collapse of rigid communist regimes in Eastern Europe in rapid succession, No said the present day and age "demands new thinking and new actions." South Korea and Japan should "ride together the new wave of reconciliation and cooperation now sweeping the world," he said.

No Views Technology Transfer

SK2505062590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—Japan should speed up its transfer of technology to South Korea and lower tariff and non-tariff barriers to Korean goods to redress the ever-widening trade imbalance in Japan's favor, Korean President No Tae-u told Japanese businessmen Friday.

No, here on a three-day state visit, said the imbalance in bilateral trade was a "staggering development" of the last few decades.

"I urge Japan also to lower its tariff and non-tariff barriers against major Korean export products so that our bilateral trade can continue to grow in both directions in a more even fashion," No said.

He said the Korean market is worth 17 billion U.S. dollars a year to Japan, up from 200 million dollars 25 years ago.

Speaking at a luncheon hosted by Japanese business leaders, he said one way to help remedy the bilateral trade imbalance was to allow a substantial level of Korean participation in large projects in Japan.

"I am told that the Japanese Government is making institutional changes to allow foreign companies to participate in such infrastructure projects as the Kansai International Airport and the trans-Tokyo bay highway," No said. "In reality, however, various invisible barriers are still in place to effectively bar foreign participation. Such hidden barriers should also be removed."

No suggested the creation of an industrial technological cooperation committee in which both governments and the private sectors of the two countries would participate to expedite industrial links, particularly through Japan's training of Korean manpower.

"I understand shortages of technically skilled manpower are growing increasingly severe in your country, pointing to an urgent need to promote international divisions of labor.

"It will be in the long-term interest of both our economies for Japanese businesses to help Korean engineers master more advanced technologies so that horizontal divisions of industry can be developed between our two nations," he said.

Hailing Japan as the world's largest aid donor, he expressed the wish to see more Japanese efforts to share capital and technology with countries in East Asia and the Pacific basin.

"I hope that Japan will also take a leading role in effectively coordinating policies of developed nations to stabilize the world economy and currencies, especially the yen. Korea is also ready and willing to fulfill its international obligations and contribute to the well-being of the community of nations commensurate to its new status and capabilities," he said.

Touching on the Korean economy, No said he was not pessimistic about the future.

"I am also acutely aware that international concern is growing about the future of the Korean economy, which is now being buffeted by persistent transitional phenomena," he said.

"The Korean economy is anticipated to grow by 7 percent this year, not at all unfavorable by international standards. Korea's economic difficulties will be resolved on the strength of the high educational level of the people, the broadened middle class and the new awareness of workers.

"There will be no reversal of Korea's democracy," he said. "Likewise, the Korean economy will embark on a new course of development toward another leap forward."

Trade Imbalance Discussed

*OW2505062290 Tokyo KYODO in English
0525 GMT 25 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae-u on Friday called on Japan to promote a close business partnership with his country and urged cooperation in technology transfer and reduction of trade imbalance.

Speaking to business leaders at a luncheon in Tokyo cosponsored by six Japanese economic organizations, No proposed creation of a bilateral industrial technology cooperation committee.

He said both the governments and private sectors in the two nations would participate in the committee, and urged the Japanese businesses to speed up their technology transfer.

He noted that in this respect, a "less-than-positive attitude" of the Japanese business circles is still prevalent.

On rectifying the trade imbalance, heavily in Japan's favor, No urged Japan to lower its tariff and nontariff barriers against major South Korean export products and allow South Korean businesses to take part in large projects in Japan "on a substantial level."

No specifically mentioned the Kansai International Airport and the Trans-Tokyo Bay Highway infrastructure projects as areas for South Korean participation.

Against the backdrop of the sweeping changes around the world, No said he is visiting Japan "with the conviction that being next-door neighbors with close contacts, Korea and Japan must become genuine partners."

About 300 senior business leaders attended the luncheon cohosted on the second day of No's three-day visit here by the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and four other economic groups.

South Korea's trade deficit with Japan peaked at 5.2 billion dollars in 1986 and in 1988 it dropped to 3.6 billion dollars, a reduction of 29.6 percent from the previous year.

But in 1989, Japan's exports to South Korea ran at 16.5 billion dollars while imports totaled 12.9 billion dollars, leaving a gap of 3.5 billion dollars in Japan's favor, down only 1.8 percent from 1988.

High inflation, lagging wages and an appreciating won, coupled with the falling yen, have already given Japan a trade surplus with South Korea of 965 million dollars in the first three months of 1990. Both nations are each other's second-largest trading partners.

Japan's direct investment in South Korea as of 1988 totaled 3,248 million dollars.

South Korea's economy, which showed a hefty annual growth rate of 12.3 percent for three consecutive years in 1986-1988, has suddenly dropped to nearly half the previous pace since 1989.

South Korean officials are expected to discuss technical cooperation in such areas as ceramics, infrared and automation technology in a series of meetings with government agencies later Friday.

Nakayama Urges Partnership

*OW2305150990 Tokyo KYODO in English
1441 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Wednesday called for a "global partnership" between Japan and South Korea and expressed hope that Seoul's acceptance of Japan's apologies for "troubles" caused in the past will facilitate such a relationship.

Nakayama, appearing in an NHK Television interview, said that on the occasion of President No Tae-u's three-day visit to Japan beginning Thursday, the government will adopt a "resolute stance so that the two countries can work through their past history and open up "a new era" of relations.

He said that amid fundamental changes in the global political and economic framework, the two countries should join hands to form a "global partnership," taking into consideration that they are both free-market democracies.

"Global partnership" is the term that Japan and the United States have been using to describe their bilateral relationship, implying political equality and a mutual desire to expand cooperation.

Nakayama expressed hope that Japan's thinking on "the past history" is understood and accepted by Koreans and other Asians.

"As I have stated in the Diet...it is important for our country to express our feelings of heartfelt penitence for the very great troubles we caused those on the Korean peninsula and (in other places in) Asia," he said.

The foreign minister's apologetic remarks, rendered from Japanese, were placed in the active form of speech rather than the passive form frequently employed by government officials.

Nakayama said Japan can play a role in helping to achieve peace on the Korean peninsula by doing what it can to bring about conditions conducive to the promotion of dialogue between the two sides.

High-Tech Cooperation

SK2505084290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0802 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Japan will seek an accord to expedite cooperation in the aviation, space and marine industries, in genetic engineering and in new materials, officials accompanying Korean President No Tae-u on his state visit said here Friday.

The officials said Korean Science-Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo and Tomoji Oshima, director of the Japanese Science and Technology Agency, decided in talks Friday afternoon to seek an agreement that would back up the exchange of researchers and information, and study of those subjects by research institutes in their two countries.

The two ministers shared the view that Japan should render all-out technological support for the successful establishment and operation of a center evaluating the properties of new materials, as agreed in a meeting between No and Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday.

The two ministers reached agreement on expanding cooperation to utilize nuclear energy and on nuclear safety and decided to set up a hotline between their two countries for use in the event of a nuclear accident.

Chong also held talks with Education Minister Kosuke Hori on Friday afternoon, during which they agreed to establish a committee for bilateral exchanges in the basic science sector.

Kaifu May Visit ROK

OW2505125490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (KYODO)—A top Japanese Government official indicated Friday that Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu may visit South Korea, saying that it would not be "strange" for the country to be included in Kaifu's diplomatic schedule.

As for a possible trip by Emperor Akihito to Japan's former colony, the official said that would be determined by South Korea and also depend on public opinion there.

The official said there had been anxiety about the current visit to Japan by President No Tae-u but that the trip is going well. Bilateral relations between Japan and South Korea will expand as a result of No's visit, he added.

Akihito Visit Possible

OW2405214490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1119 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Thursday he believes South Korean President No Tae-u's visit will pave the way for Emperor Akihito to visit South Korea.

Emperor Akihito's comments on Japan's 1910-1945 annexation of Korea will make it "possible" for the emperor to visit South Korea, Nakasone told reporters after making a courtesy call on No.

"If you look at the (bilateral) atmosphere I think it is okay," he said in assessing the possibility of a trip by Emperor Akihito to South Korea.

The remarks on Japan's colonial rule Emperor Akihito was to make at an imperial banquet later Thursday "aptly reflect the flow of time," Nakasone said, noting that he had received from the government an advance copy of the speech Emperor Akihito was to make at an imperial banquet later Thursday.

Emperor Akihito is expected to make a stronger statement than his father, Emperor Showa, though the Japanese Government has ruled out a hard-hitting apology because of constitutional restrictions barring the emperor from making "political" statements.

No also met with former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and leaders of opposition parties.

Fukuda Departs for Seoul

OW2205042090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0235 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda left Tokyo for Seoul on Tuesday to attend the eighth summit meeting of former heads of state or government across the world starting Wednesday.

Talks between Fukuda and South Korean President No Tae-u, who is to visit Japan from Thursday through Saturday, have also been arranged, an aide of the former prime minister said. Fukuda will return home on Sunday.

Japanese Fishermen on Vessels Seized by USSR

OW2505102390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Moscow, May 25 KYODO—More than 100 Japanese fishermen were among the crew of 10 North Korean-registered fishing boats seized by the Soviet authorities for alleged illegal fishing in the northern Pacific, Japanese diplomatic sources said Friday.

According to a report reaching the Japanese Fisheries Agency in Tokyo from the Soviet Ministry of Fisheries, Soviet patrol boats seized the 10 vessels on open seas off the Kamchatka Peninsula and more than 100 Japanese fishermen were among the detainees.

Radio Moscow reported Tuesday that Soviet authorities have captured the boats around May 20 for allegedly poaching for salmon originating in Soviet rivers.

The diplomatic sources quoted the Soviet authorities as saying all the boats did not have proper fishing permits.

The authorities did not give the exact number of the Japanese detained or reason why so many Japanese fishermen were on board the North Korean-registered fishing boats.

Japanese Fisheries Agency said more than 10 Japanese fishing boats dispatched by a fishery firm in Hokkaido, northern Japan, left for North Korea in April to provide technical guidance at Pyongyang's request.

In Tokyo, Akio Kyoya, director general of the agency, told the House of Councillors Budget Committee on Friday that the agency has been trying to get further information on the seizure incident through diplomatic channels.

Under an ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japanese fishermen are not allowed to do salmon fishing aboard foreign vessels.

Soviet Patrol Craft Seize 12 Fishing Boats

OW2405063190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0538 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—The Soviet Union has detained 12 fishing boats—either North Korean vessels or Japanese-registered boats that were assisting them—for alleged illegal fishing in the Northern Pacific, Fisheries Agency officials said Thursday.

They said the vessels seized could have included some or all of the dozen or so Japanese fishing boats which a Hokkaido-based fishery firm dispatched to North Korea in April to provide technical guidance.

Soviet patrol boats seized the fishing boats in the Northern Pacific southeast of the Kamchatka Peninsula around May 20, the agency said, citing a report received Wednesday by a Japanese patrol boat in the area from a Soviet patrol boat.

The location where the incident occurred was outside of the 200-mile economic zone of the Soviet Union, the agency said.

Radio Moscow reported Tuesday that Soviet authorities have captured 10 North Korean fishing boats for allegedly poaching for salmon originating in Soviet rivers.

The Fisheries Agency said it has received no report from the Japanese Embassy in Moscow about the possible involvement of Japanese fishing boats in the incident, the agency said.

More than 10 Japanese fishing boats left for North Korea in April to provide technical guidance at the request of North Korea, the agency said.

The Japanese fishing boats called at North Korean ports and have been teaching fishing methods after changing the boats' names, maritime sources said.

The agency said there is a possibility that the Japanese fishing boats might be among the boats detained by the Soviets.

Soviet Editor Says Perestroyka at Crucial Stage

OW2405103890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1016 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev needs to remain as the Communist Party chief because the ongoing perestroyka (restructuring) process requires a strong leader holding both jobs, Ivan T. Frolov, editor-in-chief of the party organ PRAVDA, said Thursday.

Frolov, who is currently in Japan on a one-week trip through Sunday, told Japanese reporters at the Japan National Press Club in Tokyo that perestroyka has reached its crucial stage since Gorbachev became general secretary of the Communist Party in 1985, saying it is a matter of life or death for the nation and the party.

Frolov also quoted Gorbachev as saying that he intends to remain in the party post if the party requires him to do so.

Asked about a special congress of the party slated for early July, he suggested that there is a possibility that the meeting might bring about a split in the party because of strong pressure from radical reformists within the party.

The congress is expected to carry out drastic party reforms, including adoption of new rules for the party.

On the territorial dispute over Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido, Frolov said, "We should give top priority to enhancing and developing cooperative relations between the two nations. Settlement of the issue depends on whether or not we can establish such cooperative ties."

Frolov is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Friday and travel to Hiroshima and Kyoto before leaving Japan.

Israel Urged To 'Exercise Self-Restraint'

OW2205131790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0942 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Japan on Tuesday called on Israel to "exercise self-restraint" amid heightened tension in the occupied territories in the aftermath of Sunday's killing of seven Palestinians by a reportedly deranged Israeli gunman. "Japan is seriously concerned that this incident may bring about a further escalation of the situation in the occupied territories and calls upon those involved, particularly on the Israeli side, to exercise self-restraint in coping with the situation," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe.

"The Government of Japan deeply deplores" the shooting incident and the subsequent escalation of the situation, Watanabe said. The spokesman said that while the initial shooting incident appeared to be "of a personal motivation," it quickly took on broader proportions because the Middle East peace process "is at a standstill." He pointed to "insufficiencies in Israeli policy" as being at the root of current problems.

"The Palestinians in the occupied territories are living under severe political, economic, and social conditions, while a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East has remained unrealized for a long time," he said. "The Government of Japan strongly hopes that a new Israeli Government will be speedily formed and proceed to an early solution to the problem of peace in the Middle East," he said.

Recognition Extended to United Yemen Republic

OW2305132690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1150 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—Japan on Wednesday extended diplomatic recognition to the newly-formed Yemeni Republic, which lies in the southwestern corner of the Arabian peninsula at the entrance to the Red Sea, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said that a document for approval of the measure was circulated among relevent cabinet ministers earlier in the day.

A telegram of recognition and congratulations was then dispatched to the newly-elected president of the unified Arab country, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, in the name of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

The pro-Western Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) and the Socialist People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen), which were at war with each other as recently as 1979, merged on Tuesday to form a single nation of 13 million people, surpassing Saudi Arabia as the most populous state on the Arabian peninsula.

Japan maintains an embassy and is represented at the ambassadorial level in Sana, the capital of former North Yemen, while it has a representative office in Aden, the capital of former South Yemen, to which Japan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia is accredited.

Generator Information Shared With FRG Company

OW2205230590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Osaka, May 22 KYODO—A Japanese research consortium made up of 16 major electric power and heavy-duty electric machinery companies announced Tuesday it had reached an agreement with West Germany's Siemens A.G. to exchange information on the development of superconducting generators.

The association, led by Seiji Morii, president of Kansai Electric Power Co., has conducted research to develop superconducting power generators and related equipment and materials.

The association agreed with Siemens that their researchers should meet about once a year until 1995 for a detailed exchange of information on experiment data, and the performance of superconductors and a related refrigeration system to improve the efficiency of research.

The association is conducting research under the guidance of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and plans to start tests in 1994 using a small-scale superconducting power generator with a capacity of 70,000 kilowatts.

Siemens is also working to develop a superconducting power generator with a capacity of 800,000 kilowatts by 1995 with the financial support of West German Government.

The Japanese association is also expected to start the exchange of information with a French electricity public corporation, EDF, later in fiscal 1990 on superconductivity technology research and development activities.

Daihatsu Considers Canceling Poland Auto Venture

OW2205131690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0909 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Daihatsu Motor Co. said Tuesday it is considering nullifying its joint car production plan with Poland's state-run automaker.

Daihatsu agreed in January with the Polish automaker, Fabryka Samochodow Osbowych, to assemble 5,000 to 6,000 cars of the 1300cc "Charade" model annually, importing all the parts from Japan.

But no progress has been made in talks with the Polish company since then, Daihatsu officials said.

The project cannot be continued on as the Polish company's management system is not yet clear, they added.

Daihatsu has been pursuing the joint venture project for several years amid similar moves by other Japanese automakers in East Europe.

But Daihatsu's likely termination of the Polish project due to uncertainty over economic developments in East Europe could affect other companies' plans, industry observers said.

Kaifu To Investigate Pollution in Philippines

OW2205142690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1215 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Tuesday he will investigate allegations that a smelter plant in the Philippines built with Japanese aid is polluting nearby sea water, contaminating marine life and threatening the health of local residents.

"Whether it is in Asia or in Ashio (a former Japanese copper mine in Tochigi Prefecture notorious for pollution), industries must not be allowed to cause harm," Kaifu told the Diet.

Kaifu made the remarks in response to an environmental expert's warning that local residents could suffer from pollution diseases that once afflicted Japanese smelting towns if pollution from the Leyte plant is not curtailed.

Testifying before the House of Councillors Budget Committee, Masaharu Kawata, a pollution expert at Nagoya University, said his research shows that wastewater dumped by the smelting plant is laced with heavy metals, and has made the local bay uninhabitable for fish.

Sea water there is contaminated with concentrations of copper and zinc 70 times greater than permitted by Japanese standards for fishing waters, he said.

Local residents also have complained of air pollution, Kawata told the Diet.

Akiko Domoto, of the opposition Japan Socialist Party, who raised the issue at the upper house, urged the government to take responsibility for the situation.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Japan will dispatch environment experts to Leyte if requested to do so by the Philippine Government.

Japan provided a total of 32.9 billion yen in official development aid between 1978 and 1983 to finance the building of roads and an electric plant and improving port facilities associated with the Leyte project.

Most of the output of the smelting plant, owned by Philippine Associated Smelting and Refining Corp. (PASAR), is exported to Japan.

The company, which produces 138,000 tons of copper ingot and 400,000 tons of sulfuric acid a year, is controlled by a Philippine Government corporation. Three Japanese trading companies—Marubeni Corp., Sumitomo Corp., and C. Itoh and Co.—hold 32 percent of the equity, with the rest owned by Philippine interest.

Kaifu Meets Fijian Prime Minister Mara

OW2305062590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—Fiji's Prime Minister Kamisese Mara told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu Wednesday his country wants to attract more tourists from Japan.

Kaifu, in a 13-minute meeting with Mara at the prime minister's official residence, promised efforts to promote the exchange of personnel as well as economic cooperation between Japan and the southern Pacific island country, Japanese officials said.

Referring to the 1987 coup d'etat in Fiji, Kaifu said he hoped to see democratic processes promoted in the country, the officials said.

Despite the rise in overseas tourism from Japan, the number of Japanese tourists to Fiji has been on the decline after peaking at about 18,000 in 1982, the Foreign Ministry officials said.

Japanese tourists to Fiji numbered 5,487 in 1987 and 3,425 in 1984, the officials said quoting Fiji's statistics.

Mara is currently on a four-day visit to Japan through Friday.

Increased Public Approval Seen for Kaifu Cabinet

OW2305005690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0008 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—Both the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and his ruling Liberal

Democratic Party [LDP] have had their public support rating increased in the past two months, the ASAHI SHIMBUN reported Wednesday.

The Kaifu Cabinet had an approval rating of 52 percent of voters in a poll taken this week, up from 49 percent in March, while voter support for the LDP rose to 54 percent from 52 percent, the mass circulation daily said.

The figure for the cabinet is the highest after the 53 percent twice registered by the cabinet of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in March and May of 1986, it said.

Kaifu has restored some of the support for the conservative camp among residents of urban areas and those in younger age groups who lost their trust in politics in the wake of the Recruit stocks-for-favors scandal, ASAHI analysts said.

Those who did not support the Kaifu Cabinet fell to 28 percent from 32 percent.

Since Kaifu took office in early August last year, voter support for his cabinet has fluctuated, swinging from 39 percent in September to 42 percent in October, 35 percent in December, 37 percent in January, and 49 percent in March, according to ASAHI polls.

Voter support for the largest opposition party, the Japan Socialist Party, was 27 percent in the latest poll, slightly down from 28 percent in March, the ASAHI poll said.

The ASAHI conducted the nationwide survey Sunday and Monday covering 3,000 out of Japan's 90 million eligible voters, of whom 2,397 or 80 percent responded.

Ministry on Continuation as Top Creditor Nation

OW2505031090 Tokyo KYODO in English
0034 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 KYODO—Japan retained its position as the world's largest creditor nation in 1989 for the fifth straight year, with the net balance of overseas assets owned by Japanese totaling 293,215 million U.S. dollars, up 0.5 percent from a year earlier, the Finance Ministry said Friday.

The slight 0.5 percent year-on-year increase followed a 21.1 percent rise the previous year, a ministry official said.

He attributed the decline in the growth rate of net assets to a decrease in the Japan's current account surplus along with an increase in Japanese stocks bought by foreigners and active bond issues on overseas markets.

But he said net overseas assets are not on a downward trend, since foreign investors cashed in Japanese stocks massively when the Tokyo stock exchange plunged early this year, reducing the country's liabilities on the balance sheet.

Outstanding assets climbed 20.5 percent to 1,771,003 million dollars, while liabilities also soared 25.5 percent to 1,477,788 million dollars, the ministry said.

Planning Agency Reports Long Growth Period

OW2505011990 Tokyo KYODO in English
0008 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 KYODO—Japan entered the 42nd straight month of economic expansion in May, matching its second-longest period of an economic boom between June 1958 and December 1961, the Economic Planning Agency said Friday.

In a monthly report based on a recent set of economic indicators, the agency said sustained and brisk domestic demand, the major driving force behind the second-longest period of economic growth, will likely to continue through at least the second half of the current fiscal year ending March 31, 1991.

The record for the longest period of economic growth was the 57 months between October 1965 and July 1970.

The latest assessment of overall economic activity, reported by the agency's Director General Hideyuki Aizawa to the cabinet on Friday morning, showed that personal spending and corporate capital investment continued to fuel current economic growth.

An agency official said economic figures indicated no convincing signs of a slowdown in the Japanese economy in the near future.

Describing the present economy as "remaining in a matured phase," the official brushed aside the negative view that Japan's economy would soon be adversely affected by a recent upsurge in interest rates.

Pointing to a large number of order backlogs in construction and other industries, the official said the negative impact of an interest rate surge in Japan would not be felt in the near future.

The agency official also stock price plunges earlier this year have not yet held back robust Japanese personal consumption, citing continued brisk demand for luxury items such as imported cars.

Although the report ruled out an economic slowdown in the immediate future, economists at the agency said their recent survey showed that major Japanese corporations were gradually becoming more cautious over their outlook for the economy.

They said mining and manufacturing production is still on the increase, noting that the data would not support the view that Japan's healthy economy has now reached a turning point.

The government earlier estimated that the nation's economy would expand at an annualized rate of 4 percent on an inflation-adjusted basis for the current fiscal 1990.

The report also said the labor market became increasingly tight, especially in the services sectors, prompting an increasing number of companies to focus on labor-saving investment.

According to the agency's survey in March, corporate capital spending projected by both manufacturers and nonmanufacturing sectors is predicted to show an increase in the July-September period from the April-June quarter, reinforcing the view that capital investment activity would likely remain as the largest source of momentum for maintaining the present robust state of the economy.

The nation's exports continue to show an increase and imports show gradual growth, supported by vigorous imports of manufactured goods, the report said.

It also said wholesale prices of domestically produced goods for the home market as well as prices at the consumer level remain stable.

Economic Growth Expected To Slow in Fiscal 1990

OW2205141590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1134 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Japan's inflation-adjusted economic growth will slow to 4.2 percent in fiscal 1990 from 4.9 percent last year in part due to the effects of falls in the stock and bond markets and in the yen's value, Industrial Bank of Japan said Tuesday.

The major commercial bank specializing in long-term finance said the impact of the securities and currency markets will account for 0.3 percentage point of the 0.7-point contraction in the year ending March 31, 1991.

The adverse market developments between February and April will begin to clearly affect corporate earnings, particularly those of real estate and leasing firms, as well as homebuilding and capital investment in and after fall, it said.

But consumer spending, which accounts for more than half the nation's total economic output, will be less affected because the proportion of stock holdings in household assets is relatively small, it added.

Bank Governor To Fight High Land Prices

OW2205131390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Kyoto, May 22 KYODO—The governor of the Bank of Japan (BOJ), Yasushi Mieno, vowed Tuesday to fight inflated land prices on the monetary front, but said the central bank has no plans to change its official discount rate at present, a BOJ official told reporters.

Mieno made the remarks at a meeting with Kyoto Gov. Teiichi Aramaki and business leaders in Kyoto, the official said.

He quoted Mieno as describing the rise in land prices as "a real headache" and saying he did not deny it was attributable partly to a relaxation of monetary policy.

But Mieno stressed the need to take a comprehensive approach toward resolving the land price issue, pointing out that a surge in land prices was caused not only by monetary policy but also by various other factors.

Mieno shrugged off the possibility of the official discount rate being raised again, however, describing the present level of the key interest rate as "neutral."

The official discount rate, which is the rate the central bank charges on its loans to commercial banks, now stands at 5.25 percent. The BOJ has raised the rate four times since May last year, when it stood at a historic low of 2.5 percent, in moves seen as putting an end to an easy monetary policy.

Mitsubishi, Daimler-Benz Cooperation Increasing

OW2205230790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1508 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—The Mitsubishi Group has received requests from Daimler-Benz of West Germany, its primary business partner, for cooperation on seven projects, including joint auto production in the Soviet Union, a group official said Tuesday.

Yoshio Taniguchi, vice president of Mitsubishi Corp., a trading arm of the Mitsubishi Group, told reporters that the project, still being negotiated by Daimler-Benz and the Soviet Union, is intended to produce between 240,000 and 300,000 automobiles annually at a plant to be built in Gorky on the outskirts of Moscow.

The West German business giant has asked Mitsubishi to supply construction and factory equipment, a request Mitsubishi has accepted in principle, Taniguchi said. It is still unclear how much of a contribution Mitsubishi will make to the 1 trillion yen project, the official said.

The move reflects swiftly developing ties between the largest conglomerates in Japan and West Germany, which reached an agreement on a wide-ranging business cooperation in March, industry sources said.

He also said Daimler-Benz wants Mitsubishi to supply auto parts to its Asian subsidiaries, as part of efforts to boost the percentage of locally-made parts from 15 to 20 percent.

Mitsubishi also has agreed to serve as a go-between when Daimler-Benz purchases high-tech parts from the newly industrialized economies of South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

Taniguchi said Daimler-Benz also seeks cooperation with Mitsubishi in such fields as commercial vehicle development, aerospace projects and its new airplane-leasing business.

He said the Mitsubishi Group plans to form a team June 1 to promote projects with Daimler-Benz. The company also has decided to hold talks with its partner biyearly, not once a year as originally planned, he said.

Ministry Reveals Plans To Introduce HDTV

OW2405001190 Tokyo KYODO in English 2315 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 24 KYODO—Japan will use its own technology to launch high-definition television (HDTV) commercially next year following failure to adopt an international HDTV format, the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry said Thursday.

The ministry said it will decide on the domestic standard for HDTV by June in preparation for commercial use next year of what industry experts say is the television of the future, which will provide movie-quality pictures.

The International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) failed Wednesday to adopt either the technology developed by Japan or that produced by Europe as the worldwide standard for HDTV.

The CCIR, which met in Dusseldorf, West Germany, released a recommendation on 23 technical points of the standard being discussed.

But it failed to decide on four other points, including the number of pictures and scanning lines per second, due to stiff pressure by Japan and Europe to have their own systems adopted.

The dispute over which format should be taken as the world standard has been gathering heat recently as the CCIR, part of the International Telecommunications Union, a worldwide regulatory agency, is moving toward a decision on the world standard.

In this new advanced technology, Japan has been a forerunner with its Muse System, on which development work has taken 20 years and cost more than 1 billion dollars.

But the European Community and the United States, in hopes of winning the prospective multibillion dollar HDTV business, have each launched their own projects, creating diversity in the HDTV technology and hindering agreement on a universal format.

NTT Requests Telecom Equipment Market Opening

OW2205230190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1420 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) on Tuesday asked the government to liberalize the market for certain telecommunications terminal equipment. The equipment, known as a digital service unit, or DSU, is a modem-like device used to connect computers to a digital communications network. DSUs connect NTT's digital communications circuits to subscriber telephones.

In Japan, NTT used to monopolize the market for DSUs. It would buy the equipment from makers and lease it to subscribers. But now, NTT says it supports foreign competition in the home market, as long as foreign-made equipment is compatible with NTT equipment.

As a first step toward liberalization, NTT has left the purchase or lease of DSUs to the discretion of subscribers in revised data exchange contracts with subscribers. NTT wants the same arrangement to apply to leased digital circuit contracts between NTT and clients. Leased digital circuits are used mainly in inter-computer data communications within the same enterprise or among different ones.

The telecom giant also is seeking permission from the posts and telecommunications for a sharp reduction in DSU rental rates and expects an answer next month.

Human Rights Official Urges Greater Commitment

OW2405102090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1137 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 23 KYODO—The visiting head of a worldwide human rights body on Wednesday urged the Japanese Government and Japanese citizens to make a greater commitment to protecting human rights throughout the world.

Ian Martin, secretary general of London-based Amnesty International, who arrived the same day for a 12-day Japan visit to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the group's Japan branch, called on the Japanese Government to play a larger role in human rights policies and to abolish Japan's capital punishment legislation.

He hailed the steady increase in the membership of its Japanese branch, now totaling 6,700, and its contribution to freeing 345 political inmates among 28,500 release cases pursued by Amnesty International worldwide over 28 years.

But he said there is still more that could be done and called on Japanese citizens to play a more active role in human rights activities.

"The world is looking forward to seeing Japan not only as an economic giant but as another kind of Japan—a country actively participating in the protection of human rights on the international scene," he told a press conference in Tokyo.

The 43-year-old British activist said funds from the Japanese section amount to less than one percent of Amnesty's entire revenue, adding that this "doesn't quite reflect the economic strength of Japan."

Amnesty International was founded in 1961 and has 700,000 members in 150 countries, according to Martin.

The group's Tokyo leader, an American resident of Japan Edith Hanson, and an Indian female resident of

Denmark who had been detained without trial and tortured by Indian police were among those who met the press with Martin.

"This is a very important moment for the future of human rights in the world," he said, noting that the "dramatic changes" in Eastern Europe had raised the hopes of many people that respect for human rights could continue to spread throughout the world.

Martin cited as "signs of improvement" recent releases of political prisoners by governments in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, including South Korea's release of a former Korean resident of Japan and highlighted by South Africa's freeing of black leader Nelson Mandela.

But he noted there are still human rights problems in many countries, naming China for last June's Tiananmen Square military crackdown on civilian demonstrators and the "ongoing detention of prisoners of conscience."

Martin announced the group will hold a worldwide campaign to demand China free all political prisoners and will publish lists of detainees in China to mark the first anniversary of the Beijing crackdown.

He also singled out human rights violations in military-ruled Myanmar [Burma], in northern India where he said people complain of human rights abuses by the military, and in Bhutan where Nepalese-speaking people "are being arrested in a campaign against minorities."

Martin, a former British local councillor, will meet with the officials of Japan's foreign and justice ministries to urge a greater Japanese commitment to human rights policies.

The British activist, who was involved in South Asian development projects and assisting migrant laborers in Britain before joining Amnesty in 1985, will also exchange views with lawmakers, scholars and human rights activists during his first Japan trip.

Martin also announced that next year Amnesty International will stage its general assembly, held every other year, in Yokohama from August 31-September 8 to commemorate its 30th anniversary, the first time the group will have held a session in Asia.

On Wednesday, 40 Japanese members of the Diet, from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party, the Japan Communist Party and independents, established a parliamentarians league to cooperate with the international group, to seek the improvement of human rights conditions in Japan and worldwide.

MITI Panel Proposes Program for Saving Earth

*OW2505120390 Tokyo KYODO in English
0818 GMT 25 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 25 (KYODO)—A government report Friday proposed a 100-year program to stem the ongoing process of global warming, calling for wide-ranging international cooperation in tackling the problem.

The program, fashioned by a subcommittee of the Industrial Structure Council, an advisory panel to the minister of international trade and industry, called for worldwide energy-saving efforts.

It also called for the development of technology for utilizing clean energy sources and for trapping carbon dioxide, principal culprit of the so-called greenhouse effect.

The program is designed to serve as Japan's international declaration of its commitment to the environmental protection cause as well as a prescription for tackling the issue.

As an immediate practical step, the report said worldwide efforts could be made to cut down on energy consumption.

It proposed the setting of an energy conservation target for each country and joint research schemes to develop technology for more efficient use of energy.

The report called on the government to promote the transfer of Japan's reputed energy-saving technology to other countries.

Also cited in the program as important environmental protection measures are attempts to make wider use of clean energy sources such as solar and nuclear power.

The program's longer-term goals include the development of CO2-trapping technology and of such revolutionary energy technology as nuclear fusion and room-temperature superconductors.

Besides the 100-year program, the 23-page report emphasized the importance of establishing an energy conservation-oriented life style, and carrying out an overall transformation of industries into an "earth-friendly" production system.

For that purpose, the report recommended the establishment of a core institution for conducting environment-related research that is open to experts from all over the world.

It also urged that measures be taken to deal with greenhouse gases other than CO2, including methane and chlorofluorocarbons.

But it took a dim view about imposing any taxes or surcharges on the burning of fossil fuels, arguing that such measures might have huge social and economic impacts.

It insisted that any environmental protection policy should be compatible with economic growth.

While pressing for immediate action before it is too late, the report also stressed the importance of advancing scientific studies to clarify the mechanism of global warming.

Chukakuha Claims Bomb Explosion Responsibility

OW2305130990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Osaka, May 23 KYODO—Members of the left-wing Chukakuha extremists claimed responsibility for a series of bomb explosions early this week which injured four people in leaflets distributed Wednesday at a local university campus.

Osaka police said leaflets found on the Kyoto University campus indicated the western Japan branch of the group, also known as the Middle Core Faction, had launched the series of bomb attacks. The three explosions on the north and south sides of an apartment complex for government employees in southern Osaka early Monday morning injured four people, destroying one car and damaging two others.

Police suspect the radicals used a new type of explosive embedded in a fire extinguisher instead of the home-made petrol explosives usually associated with their attacks. The apartment complex housed senior officials from the Transport, Construction and Justice Ministries connected with new airport construction and revised immigration statutes that the extremists oppose.

The group has announced an "April-June offensive" in opposition to several events during that period including the visit of South Korean President No Tae-u to Japan beginning Thursday. The radicals also oppose the planned move of an imperial throne from Kyoto to Tokyo to be used in enthronement ceremonies for Emperor Akihito this fall, police said.

A series of car fire bombings of smaller explosive force occurred in Tokyo and two neighboring prefectures late last week, outside the homes of Justice Ministry employees.

Mongolia

G. Ochirbat Briefs Officials on USSR Visit

OW2405123690 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Gombojabyn Ochirbat has met with the secretaries of primary party organizations of the capital city of Ulaanbaatar. He informed them of the outcome of the recent working visit to the Soviet Union paid by him and Chairman of the Presidium of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat.

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party leader called on all party members to hold an active position on the threshold of the forthcoming late July elections to the People's Great Hural of Mongolia.

Supreme Court Registers New Parties for Election

Party of Free Labor Registered

OW2305181690 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1715 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 23 May (OANA-MONTSAME)—Official recognition has been won by the Mongolian Party of Free Labour (MPFL) as the Supreme Court of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] has registered it today. The ruling MPRP and the Mongolian Party of National Progress (MPNP) underwent the same procedure on the 16th and 22d of May respectively.

At the session of the Supreme Court's College for Civilian Affairs, the MPFL leader H. Maam elucidated some clauses of his party's programme, noting that it is striving to contribute to building a humane and democratic socialism in Mongolia.

This party announced itself on 12 March of this year. Its first congress which approved the programme and the statutes, took place in late March. Having being set up by a group of members of manufacturing cooperatives, this party is membering now representatives of the consumers' movement as well as intellectuals. According to the MPFL statutes, one of its major functions will be the protection of the interests and rights of all people engaged in cooperative and individual enterprise.

At present the MPFL ranks 809 members, which allowed it to be registered under the MPR Law on Political Parties that sets a minimum membership for a party to be registered at 801 people.

H. Maam, the chairman of the MPFL Central Committee, holds the degree of a master of science (history) and before his political career started, had been employed with the Institute of Social Sciences.

Democratic Party Registered

OW2405202690 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1722 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, May 24 (OANA-MONTSAME)—The board of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Supreme Court in charge of civil issues has adopted today a decision complying with the Mongolian Democratic Party's (MDP) request for an official registration.

At the meeting of the board its chairman and vice chairman of the MPR Supreme Court O. Sharabdorj informed that the Supreme Court received about 600 letters from citizens, 540 of them demanding that the MDP not be recognised. Letters from citizens were received in the Supreme Court following its announcement published in the May 15 issue of the newspaper

"UNEN" this year inviting them to state their opinion as regards one or another party.

In its petition the MDP has undertaken to observe the norms of law in its activities and "make a worthy contribution to the prosperity of the state."

The MDP declared its inception on February 18 at the first congress of the Mongolian Democratic Association (MA). The programme and rules of the MDP were approved at its first congress on April 8 this year. At present 7200 members are enrolled in this alternative party pursuing the most radical activities.

The MDP is the fourth political party which received official recognition. Prior to it the ruling MPRP, the Mongolian Party of National Progress (MPNP) and the Party of Free Labour (PFL) were registered now its turn of the Mongolian Social Democratic Party. (MSDP). [sentence as received]

The MDP, MSDP and MPNP (listed in order of their founding) have formed a coalition for participation in the general elections slated for 29 July this year.

MDU, MDP Issue 'Election Appeal' for Dialogue

LD2505081690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1023 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN correspondent)—The upcoming elections to the hurals (parliaments) at all levels are, in the view of the Mongolian democrats, "a school for the struggle for democracy, not for the struggle for power in the state and government." This was stressed by the leaderships of the Mongolian Democratic Union (MDU) and the Mongolian Democratic Party (MDP) in an election appeal in their paper "ARDCHILAL" (DEMOCRACY).

The multiparty system in Mongolia had become a reality as a result of the difficult but just struggle of the MDU and the MDP to overcome the economic, social, and moral crisis. Although the elections on 29 July will not correspond fully to democratic principles—the electoral law disadvantaged the new parties in the provinces—the democrats are determined to participate in them.

In their appeal, the leaders of the strongest extraparliamentary force in Mongolia declared their readiness to continue the dialogue with parliament, the government, and the leadership of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party on the next measures for overcoming the crisis. The proposal to conduct this exchange of opinion in public, on radio, and on television has, however, remained unanswered so far.

MDP, MDU Party Officials Leave for Europe

LD2505080690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1051 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN correspondent)—Sanjaasurengiyn Dzorig, chief coordinator of the Mongolian Democratic Union (MDU), and Damdinsurengiyn Enhbaatar, member of the Political Consultative Center of the Mongolian Democratic Party (MDP), left Ulaanbaatar today for their first foreign tour. They intend to gather experience in the organization of an election campaign and to study organizational structures in Hungary, the CSFR, the GDR, and Poland with the Democratic Forum, the Civic Forum, the New Forum, and Solidarity.

Also today, the MDP was officially registered as the [country's] fourth party by the Supreme Court. It had already announced at its foundation in February that it would put up candidates for the elections to the hurals (parliaments) at all levels. The elections are scheduled for 29 July.

Agricultural Cooperatives Union Supports MPRP

OW2405204790 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1715 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 24 May (OANA-MONTSAME)—The organizations in the Union of Agricultural Cooperatives and thousands of their members will take part in the forthcoming elections in alliance with the self-renewing MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party], reads a letter of the presidium of the Supreme Council of the Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (UAC) of Mongolia to the members of cooperative farms and other rural coop enterprises. It was published in today's issue of the "UNEN" under the title "In One Bloc With the MPRP."

Pre-election campaigns are starting throughout the country in a complicated period of our public life. The MPRP manifesto issued in this connection has been taken by our coop members close to their hearts, the letter says.

It notes the attentive attitude on the part of the MPRP, the top state and government bodies to the proposals and views of the UAC, and the measures taken by them in the agrarian sphere. Thus, 72 financially weak coop farms have been freed from paying a debt of 50 million togrog they received as short-term credits, and the payment of the remaining 90 million togrog debt has been postponed until 2000. Besides, state procurement prices for animal husbandry produce are to be increased starting from 1991.

The Supreme Council informs that according to the 1989 data, a coop farm member owns privately an average of 54 head of livestock and receives an average monthly pay of 278 togrog. The plans are to increase his earnings up to 400 togrog by the end of 1991. Telling about some other measures being taken for improving the living and working conditions of livestockbreeders and members of agricultural coops, the presidium of the UAC Supreme

Council underscores in its letter that there is nothing more important for them than to make a real contribution to building a humane and democratic socialism in Mongolia and translating into life the decisions of the MPRP, people's state and the government.

The presidium of the UAC Supreme Council called upon the entire agricultural coop membership to launch an active work for nominating people capable of making the best of the opportunities offered by the new political system and of protecting the interests of agricultural coop members.

The UAC is one of the largest mass organizations of Mongolia. It involves about 300 coop farms and other agricultural cooperative enterprises membering more than 223 thousand people or over 30 per cent of the country's able-bodied population.

Consumers Cooperatives Hold Congress

OW2405130490 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] A congress of consumers cooperatives of Mongolia was held in Ulaanbaatar. It discussed immediate tasks of the Mongolian consumers cooperatives, approved draft rules of the Central Union of the Mongolian Consumers Coopertives, and elected a council of the union including 61 members.

Genghis Khan's Birthday To Be Celebrated

OW2305100090 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpt] Coming Sunday, May the 27th, is going to be celebrated in Mongolia as the birth anniversary of Genghis Khan, the founder of the united Mongol state. The event will be sponsored by a newly set up public organization, Genghis House. [passage omitted]

North Korea

Further Reportage on SPA Session Activities

Kim Il-song Clarifies UN Position

SK2505054890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0404 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song in his policy speech at the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] clarified the principled stand of the DPRK Government on the question of entry of the North and the South of Korea into the United Nations.

If the North and the South enter the UN separately, it will legalize the division of Korea in the international arena and create another obstacle and difficulty to national reunification, he said, and stressed:

From a desire to put an end to national division and achieve reunification, the government of our Republic has always maintained that Korea must enter the UN as a unified country.

If the North and the South are to join the UN before Korea's reunification is achieved, they must not hold two separate seats but enter it jointly as one member in favour of the reunification cause.

He said the UN whose mission it is to safeguard peace and justice must help to settle the Korean question peacefully and impartially, and it should not allow itself to be used to delay the reunification of Korea.

State Leadership Elected

SK2505035390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Excerpts] State leadership organs were elected at the First Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK. [passage omitted]

The speaker, deputy speakers, secretary general, and members of the SPA Standing Committee elected at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK are as follows:

Yang Hyong-sop, speaker of the SPA Standing Committee; Yo Yon-ku and Paek In-chun, deputy speakers; Kim Kyong-pong, secretary general; and Yi Kye-paek, Chong Sin-hyok, Chong Chun-ki, Won Tong- ku, Yom Tae-chun, Chong Tu-hwan, Choe Yong-hae, Pak Su-tong, Kim Song-ae, Yu Ho-chun, and Chong Ha-chol, members.

Comrade Han Sang-kyu was appointed procurator general of the DPRK Central Procurators' Office at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK.

Comrade Pang Hak-se was appointed president of the DPRK Central Court at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK.

The members of the State Administration Council announced at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK are as follows: [passage omitted]

The Budget Committee of the SPA elected at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK are as follows:

Pak Nam-ki, chairman of the SPA Budget Committee; Chae Hui-chong, vice chairman; and Yim Nok-chae, Yi Yong-kyun, Kim Chi-hang, Yim Ki- hwan, and Yu Kyu-tong, members.

The Diplomatic Committee of the SPA elected at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK are as follows:

Ho Tam, chairman of the SPA Diplomatic Committee; Kim Yong-sun, Chong Chun-ki, Kang Sok-chu, and Kim Yong-ho, vice chairmen; and Kim Chol-myong, Han Si-hae, Yi Hyon-ho, Choe Hyon-tok, Yo Pong-ku, Hwang Pyong-tae, Ko Ki-chun, and Yi Tong-chol, members.

The Reunification Policy Deliberation Committee of the SPA elected at the First Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK are as follows:

Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the SPA Policy Reunification Deliberation Committee; Kang Pyong-hak and Han Yong-su, vice chairmen; and Yim Chun-kil, An Pyong-su, Yu Ho-chun, Chon Kum-chol, Kang Yong-sop, and Pak Tae-ho, members.

Yi Chong-ok Speaks

SK2505033090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Speech by Yi Chong-ok, deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), member of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee Political Bureau, and vice president, before the First Session of the Ninth SPA, held at Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on 24 May—recorded]

[Text] Comrade deputies: Highly upholding respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, the founder of our party and Republic and the great leader [yongdoja], at the top of the Republic and achieving the eternal prosperity and development of the fatherland and the ultimate completion of our revolutionary cause is the unanimous and unshakable will of the entire party and all the people. [applause]

As authorized by the WPK Central Committee, I report to this session of the SPA the proposal of the WPK Central Committee on upholding as president of the DPRK respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, who has, throughout his life, devoted himself to the sovereignty and independence of the fatherland and its prosperity and development and to the victory of the Korean revolution and the freedom and happiness of the working popular masses. [applause]

Respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song is a great leader who, during a long period that spans approximately 60 years, has wisely led the struggle of our party and people for sovereignty, independence, and socialism with his outstanding and tested leadership and through incomparably energetic revolutionary activities, thus brilliantly cultivating the modern history of the fatherland and ushering the new era of the victory of independent people and the era of national prosperity and development in our age-old national history. [applause]

The entire history of our people's revolutionary struggle, which has advanced under the banner of independence, is directly linked to the esteemed name of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and all the heroic events and epochal changes that have taken place in our fatherland during this historic period are the fruition of the victory of Comrade Kim Il-song's great revolutionary ideas and the brilliant result of the leader's revolutionary leadership and devoted struggle. [applause]

When our nation was suffering the most, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song created a scientific guiding idea on the Korean revolution and organized and led the heroic anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, thus achieving national liberation and the independence of the fatherland and brilliantly carrying out the historic cause of founding a revolutionary party and state of the working class in our country and of raising the strong main forces of the revolution. He also wisely led the struggle of the party and people to build a new society, thus turning our fatherland into a prospering and developing independent, self-reliant, and self-defending socialist country. [applause]

Because they cherished the chuche idea, created by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, as the guiding idea of the revolution and as the nation's spirit, our people—who were writhing under age-old sufferings from the long tragedy of national ruin—created a new history of independence and prosperity along the unique road suited to the reality in our country and wonderfully built a unique socialism of our own style, which helps our people's ideas and aspirations blossom.

The immortal chuche idea, which has saved our people's destiny from the stern trials of history and which has paved the way toward the victory of the Korean revolution, has, over time, more vigorously displayed its invincible truthfulness and vitality and today continues to lead our people to carry out the revolutionary cause along the single road of victory without deviation.

In the course of the Korean revolution, there were many hard trials and difficulties that could determine its victory or defeat. However, because the great revolutionary tradition, which the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song displayed during his 20-year anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, has become the everlasting cornerstone of our revolution and the source of boundless ideological and spiritual energies, our party and people have been able to adhere to basic revolutionary principles and to undauntedly march along the single road of chuche despite all storms.

Because of the unique man-centered revolutionary idea created by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and because of his political activities for the sake of the people, the most outstanding socialist system that successfully realizes the independence of the working popular masses was built in our country, and, under this benevolent system, our workers, peasants, soldiers, and working intellectuals have become genuine masters of the state and society and are fully enjoying worthwhile lives in conformity with the innate nature of independent human beings in all domains of political, economic, and cultural lives.

Our people firmly believe that our socialist system, which we ourselves selected and which we built through our bloody struggle and devoted labor, following the leadership of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, is the foundation for everlasting happiness and prosperity of the Korean people. Our people foresee a brighter future for the nation by boundlessly treasuring the chuche socialist system, which is permeated by our blood and sweat and in which great ideas and a glorious tradition are embodied, and by constantly consolidating and developing this system.

The path of our revolution is still arduous and rigorous. However, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song firmly organized the main force of our revolution with all his heart and dedication as a most solid ideological and mental body, which attained the unity of the leader, the party, and the masses. He strengthened and developed our party into an indomitable ever-victorious revolutionary party, which can brilliantly accomplish the chuche cause generation after generation to the end under the tested leadership of the governing body [sunoebu] of the party. Therefore, the future of the socialist cause in our country is optimistic, and the future of the Korean revolution is boundlessly bright. [applause]

Indeed, the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song is an ever-victorious iron-willed leader, who built the great party of the working class in a country where acute confrontation had persisted for a long time between the revolution and counterrevolution and who fostered the heroic people and mighty revolutionary armed forces. Thus, he crushed two formidable imperialisms and constantly expanded and developed the victory of the anti-imperialist cause for independence and the socialist cause amid unprecedented difficulties and arduousness. He is a genius of creation and construction, who has made imperishable precious achievements before the fatherland, the people, the times, and history. He is the lodestar and sagacious leader of the nation who has embodied the unanimous aspirations of all of our people, enjoying the absolute trust of all fellow countrymen, and who is victoriously opening the rugged path of the reunification cause, highly standing at the center of the great national unity. [applause]

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song is endlessly respected and trusted by the people as a tested and highly authoritative leader in the international revolutionary movement who vigorously encouraged the people's struggle for independence, sovereignty, and socialism. The progressive people of the world sincerely rejoice over the happiness and honor of the Korean people who uphold the great Comrade Kim Il-song as the leader.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song dedicated his whole life to the sacred cause for the people's freedom and happiness and realized the national aspirations and the people's ideals. Today, with a lofty spirit, such as the one he had while leading the anti-Japanese war by crossing the steep mountains of Paektu, he is wisely leading the grand march of our party and our people for the complete victory of socialism and expediting national reunification with tireless energy and without rest. [applause]

During the entire historical course from the time of pioneering the revolution to the time of great prosperity in building the socialist fatherland, the great leader led the people's cause for independence along the single road of victory. Even today, he is commanding the entire party, the entire nation, all the people, and entire army at the van and is energetically leading the struggle to accomplish the revolutionary cause. It is indeed a boundless happiness and great pride of the Korean people to uphold the great leader to high esteem as the leader of the party and the state and as the supreme commander of overall revolutionary armed forces. [applause]

Only the party and state which uphold in high esteem their leader can pioneer a brilliant future, assuming responsibility for the people's destiny to the end. This is precisely the firm faith that our people have come to cherish in their hearts through the practice of their protracted struggle. Accordingly, the faith of our workers, peasants, soldiers, and working intellectuals to uphold in high esteem and follow the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song is based precisely on the truth of their struggle and on their experiences, and this faith of theirs is forever firm, invariable, and unshakable. [applause]

Our party members and all of the people—who have firmly believed through the history of epochal changes effected in shaping the destiny of the country and the people that the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is synonymous with our people's happiness, our fatherland's prosperity, and our revolution's victory—cherish in their hearts as their absolute desire to invariably uphold in high esteem the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the state president of the Republic. [applause]

Comprised in this firm revolutionary will of our people is also not only the burning desire of the patriotic people from all walks of life in South Korea who are vigorously struggling for the day when all of our compatriots can live happily in the land of a reunified fatherland, but also the ardent desire of all compatriots overseas, including 700,000 Korean residents in Japan who have glorified the honor and national pride as the citizens of a sovereign socialist state under the banner of the Republic.

Our people, who are accelerating the march of the nineties while deeply realizing the important historic mission that the last era of the 20th century has assigned to our generations, will uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem forever as the leader of our party, state, and nation in order to build a socialist paradise on the land of the fatherland, to achieve the country's reunification at the earliest possible date, and to consummate the cause of socialism. Also, our people will resolutely defend the single-hearted unity of the entire party and all of the people based on the chuche idea and will faithfully struggle along the single road of the revolution led by the leader. [applause]

The revolutionary cause of our people, who, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem as the president of the DPRK, are advancing under the leadership of the party and the leader and under the banner of the chuche idea, the banner of socialism, will be ever-victorious, and our Republic will be prosperous forever. [applause]

Long live Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, who is the founder and leader of the DPRK. [applause and cheers]

State Budget Discussed

SK2505051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—The summing up of the fulfilment of the state budget of the DPRK for 1989 and the state budget for 1990 are now under discussion at the second-day sitting of the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly.

According to the report submitted to the session by Finance Minister deputy Yun Ki-chong, the state budgetary revenue last year amounted to 33,608,100,000 won, 0.2 percent above the plan. It rose 5.3 percent above the 1988 figure.

The state budgetary expenditure last year was 33,382,940,000 won, 99.5 percent of the plan or 5.4 percent up on the 1988 figure.

Thus last year's state budget was successfully fulfilled with a surplus of 225,160,000 won after fully meeting the vast needs for funds in executing the policies of our party and the government of the Republic for the acceleration of grand socialist construction, the growth of the might of the country and the improvement of the people's living standard.

In the 1980s the state budgetary revenue grew at a rate of 6.7 percent on an annual average to enlarge the scale of the state budget 1.9 times.

The report outlines the state budget for 1990.

The state budget for 1990 has been so compiled as to give a strong financial support to bringing about a new great revolutionary upsurge by increasing production and making economies to the maximum in all domains of the national economy in accordance with the central tasks for this year put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The state budgetary revenue and expenditure this year are scaled at 35,656,100,000 won respectively, a growth of 6.1 percent in revenue and 6.8 percent in expenditure above last year's.

The state budgetary revenue from the industrial domain this year will show a rise of 7 percent above last year's with the existing economic foundations paying off through the increased production and economies at factories and enterprises of this domain which hold the main share of the revenue.

This year's state budgetary expenditure for the national economy will increase 6.9 percent above last year's and a big part of it will go to the expansion and strengthening of the foundation of heavy industry.

This year the construction of power stations, coal and ore mines and metallurgical bases will be powerfully pushed ahead with colossal investments 7.5 percent above last year's in power, mining and metal industries.

This year the state budget envisages a marked increase of investments in machine-building industry and electronics and automation industries as against last year's and great efforts for the development of the chemical industry, railway transport, the light industry and agriculture and the construction of dwelling houses.

The expenditure for social and cultural measures will swell 6.5 percent compared with last year and an enormous amount of funds will go to popular measures.

This year the state will increase the expenditure for science, education and health care.

This year the government of the DPRK will direct 12.1 percent of the total state budgetary expenditure to national defence to firmly safeguard the security of the socialist homeland and our people in the face of the ever-escalating aggression and war moves of the U.S. Imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique.

This year's state budget is an independent budget for economic construction which makes it possible to provide firm financial guarantee for a new great revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction and a popular budget which is correctly worked out to further promote material an cultural welfare of the people.

Kim Chung-nin Speaks

SK2505044990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0437 GMT 24 May 90

[Report by Deputy Kim Chung-nin, chairman of the Credentials Committee, at the First Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) of the DPRK held on 24 May at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang—recorded]

[Text] The elections of deputies to the Ninth SPA were successfully held amid the circumstances in which all the people across the country were fiercely fanning the flames of the struggle for conservation and production on all fronts of the socialist construction by launching the all-out march of the 1990s while upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and the decisions at the 17th plenary session of the sixth party Central Committee.

By actively turning out to the all-people work of further consolidating the regime of the Republic, our people greeted the elections of SPA deputies with a high political enthusiasm.

Participating in the elections were 99.78 percent of all eligible voters, and 100 percent of the voters who participated in the elections cast ballots for the SPA deputy candidates registered in the electoral constituencies.

This was an expression of all people's absolute support for and trust in the regime of our Republic founded and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and was a manifestation of our people's firm faith and will for consummating the socialist cause under the wise leadership of the party and the leader along the single road indicated by the chuche idea.

The elections powerfully demonstrated once again the invincible might of our people, who are united around the party and the leader in a single-hearted manner, and the matchless superiority of our country's socialist system which embodies the chuche idea. Also, they clearly showed all people's burning desire and unwavering will for resolving to more staunchly fight to consummate the chuche revolutionary cause under the banner of the Republic.

The Credentials Committee of the SPA has screened all materials concerning the elections and has confirmed that since the elections of the Ninth SPA were held according to the regulations on the elections of deputies to every-level of people's assembly of the DPRK and the registered deputy candidates were supported by 100 percent of the voters who participated in the elections, the SPA deputies elected at every constituency are qualified for the membership of the SPA.

The SPA deputies elected in all constituencies throughout the country are true people's representatives who devotedly work to strengthen and develop the regime of the Republic and to flourish the socialist fatherland and serve the fatherland and the people with endless loyalty to the party and the leader.

Among the SPA deputies are many anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who took part in the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, heroically fought for the liberation of the fatherland and the freedom and happiness of the people, and have devotedly struggled to consummate the chuche revolutionary cause.

Workers of plants and enterprises, who have registered labor exploits in socialist construction, account for 37 percent of the SPA deputies, and cooperative farm members for 10.4 percent.

Included in the SPA deputies are functionaries of party and power organs, economic organs, and workers' organizations; soldiers of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces; excellent functionaries in the scientific and technological, educational, public health, cultural and art, and all other fields; religious men; and functionaries of the General Association of Korean Residents in Korea and its organizations which struggle for the democratic national rights of Korean residents in Japan and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Members of the Korean Social Democratic Party account for 7.4 percent of the SPA deputies, members of the Chondoist Chongu Party, and independent members for 1.9 percent.

The proportion of women is 20.1 percent.

Those functionaries who have been awarded Kim Il-song orders and Kim Il-song prizes for their shining exploits in defending and implementing our party's lines and policies by firmly arming themselves with the great chuche idea and who have been given the title of Republic heroes and labor heroes, and many other honor titles are 63.8 percent of the SPA deputies.

Those degree-holders, including doctors and professors, and scientists, engineers, and specialists are 64.5 percent of the SPA deputies.

In view of the ages of the SPA deputies and their degree of knowledge, those below 35 years old are 2.9 percent of the SPA deputies, those from 36 to 55 years old are 56.8 percent, and those above 55 years are 40.3 percent. College graduates account for 68.2 percent and graduates from technical schools, middle schools, and senior middle schools, and vocational schools for 31.8 percent of the SPA deputies.

This shows that our supreme power organ is correctly composed of resolute revolutionary fighters and people's faithful servants, who have devoted everything to fighting for the party, the leader, the fatherland, and the people; competent functionaries with rich experience and high-level knowledge; excellent functionaries with fighting experience who have been tested in revolutionary struggles and construction work; and reliable functionaries who will succeed to the revolution generation after the generation.

As shown above, the SPA deputies elected this time are elderly revolutionaries who have faithfully fought for the victory of the chuche revolutionary cause, the true representatives of the working people, who have a high sense of loyalty to the party and the leader and enjoy deep trust among the masses, and prepared functionaries who are fully qualified to smoothly discharge the assigned honorable mission and duty.

Comrade deputies, the SPA Credentials Committee acknowledges that the SPA deputies, who were elected in the SPA deputy elections held thoroughly according to our country's socialist Constitution and the regulations on the elections of every-level people's assembly, are perfectly qualified for being SPA deputies and that the composition of deputies is also made in conformity with the intrinsic nature of the worker-peasant revolutionary regime led by the working class. [applause]

Therefore, the Credentials Committee proposes that this SPA session deliberate the matter of recognizing the eligibility of DPRK SPA deputies for 687 SPA deputies who were elected with the unanimous support of the people.

Minister Yun Speaks About Budget

SK2505100190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0920 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—Deputy Yun Ki-chong, minister of finance, made a report "on the summing up of the fulfilment of the state budget of the DPRK for 1989 and on the state budget for 1990" at the second-day sitting of the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly which opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on May 24.

The reporter said:

The state budgetary revenue last year amounted to 33,608,100,000 won, or 0.2 percent above the plan. This means a 5.3 percent gain above the 1988 figure.

The state budgetary expenditure last year s 33,382,940,000 won, 99.5 percent of the plan or 5.4 percent up on the 1988 figure.

Thus last year's state budget was successfully fulfilled, with a surplus of 225,160,000 won, after fully meeting the vast needs for funds in executing the policies of our party and the government of the republic for the acceleration of grand socialist construction, the growth of the might of the country, and the improvement of the people's living standard.

The state increased appropriations to the national economy 5.8 percent last year above the 1988 figure, of which investments in productive capital construction grew 7 percent so as to step up the construction of major objects for expanding and strengthening chuche industry.

The government of the republic raised investments in mining and power industries 8 percent last year over the previous year and pressed ahead with the development of coal and ore mines and the construction of power stations.

The development of the December 16 coal mine, the Chongpyong mine, and the Sinpa youth mine was completed and the reconstruction and expansion of the Sunchon district coal mining complex, the Musan mining complex, the Komdok mining complex, and many other coal and ore mines made successful progress last year.

The construction of the Taechon power stations, the Nyongwon power station, the Namgang power station, the December thermal power plant, and other hydro- and thermo-power stations was pressed ahead and hundreds of minor power stations made their appearance in all parts of the country.

Last year the government of the republic increased investments in metal industry 7 percent above the previous year with the result that the second-stage expansion project of the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex was completed, the May 18 large-size stamp-forging factory of the Chollima steel complex was commissioned, and the reconstruction and expansion projects of metal plants were accelerated.

Big efforts were directed to developing machine tool industry and electronics and automation industries last year. As a result, great strides were made in building up the production bases of modern machines and equipment, ordered equipment, numerical control machine tools, electronic devices, automation guages, and instruments.

Last year the Sangwon cement complex with a capacity of 2 million tons was commissioned and building-materials industrial bases were consolidated in the capital and local areas.

In the chemical industry, the first-stage project of the Sunchon vinalon complex, a model factory of chuche-based industry, was completed and the construction of many chemical factories went ahead successfully.

Last year the government of the republic alloted to agriculture a colossal amount of state funds, six percent more than the previous year, to consolidate the achievements of irrigation, bring wide areas under cultivation, and make palpable achievements in the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture and widespread use of chemicals in it.

Last year the state turned large funds to transportation. Railway construction of many sections, including the Rajin-Chongjin mixed line, was pressed ahead to lift the rate of traction by electric locomotives to 90.1 percent.

Parallel with the vast-scale productive capital construction, sufficient funds were allotted to the construction of cultural establishments, modern service facilities, and dwelling houses last year.

The DPRK Government last year made large appropriations for social and cultural measures 5.2 percent up on 1988 and disbursed large funds for popular measures.

Over the past three decades since the enforcement of the free education system in Korea, expenditure for education has increased more than nine times.

At present, there is a large army of 1,460,000 intellectuals in Korea which had only scores of intellectuals right after the liberation of the country.

Last year the state budget also raised expenditures to improve the people's cultural and emotional living, further improve and strengthen health service, increase the people's physical strength, and grant more benefits of social insurance and social maintenance to the working people.

Last year the DPRK government directed 12 percent of the total state budgetary expenditure to military spendings to carry through our party's military line of self-reliance in defence.

Thus, the state budget last year was successfully carried out in all items of revenue and expenditure and it made a great contribution to consolidating our socialist system and giving full play to its advantages.

Elaborating on the 1990 state budget, the reporter said:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

"We must launch a powerful mass campaign to increase production and make economies to the maximum by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude in this year, the fourth year of the third Seven-Year Plan, and so bring about another great revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction."

The state budget for 1990 has been so compiled as to give a strong financial support to bringing about a new great revolutionary upsurge by increasing production and making economies to the maximum in all domains of the national economy in accordance with the central tasks for this year put forward by the great leader.

The state budgetary revenue and expenditure this year are scaled at 35,656,100,000 won respectively, a growth of 6.1 percent in revenue and 6.8 percent in expenditure above last year's.

The state budgetary revenue from the industrial domain this year will show a rise of 7 percent above last year's with the existing economic foundations paying off through increased production and economies at factories and enterprises of this domain which hold the main share of the revenue.

This year's state budgetary expenditure for the national economy will increase 6.9 percent above last year's for carrying through the basic line of economic construction of our party and a big part of it will go to the expansion and strengthening of the foundation of heavy industry.

This year the construction of power stations, coal, and ore mines and metallurgical bases will be powerfully pushed ahead with colossal investments 7.5 percent more than last year's in power, mining, and metal industries.

This year the state budget envisages a marked increase of investments in machine-building industry and electronics and automation industries as against last year's so as to take a big step forward in equipping the national economy more firmly with modern technical means and realising automation, robotisation, and computerisation of production.

This year the state intends to maintain large appropriations for chemical industry in order to powerfully accelerate the construction of the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex and the reconstruction and expansion of major chemical factories and the building of new production processes.

With large investments in transportation the construction of new railways of various sections will be accelerated and the introduction of heavy rails be stepped up to further increase the railway transit capacity.

This year big efforts will be directed to the development of light industry and agriculture and housing construction. The light industry will decisively increase the textile output and produce large quantities of mass consumption goods including good-quality daily necessities and foodstuffs which cater to the tastes of the people by streamlining the light industrial factories while making an effective use of the already laid foundation.

The investments in the rural economy will go up 6.5 percent above last year's to step up the comprehensive mechanization and chemicalisation of agriculture at faster rate.

This year a huge amount of funds, 9 percent up on last year's, are expected to go to housing construction.

The construction of modern flats for 50,000 families and modern educational, cultural, health institutions, and public service facilities in Pyongyang in a short time will solve the housing problem of the citizens in the capital more satisfactorily.

The expenditure for social and cultural measures will swell 6.5 percent compared with last year and an enormous amount of funds will be disbursed for popular measures to accelerate socialist cultural construction and promote the wellbeing of the people.

This year the state will increase the expenditure for science, education, and health care.

The great leader sent educational aid fund and stipends running into more than 39,680,180,000 Japanese yen in 113 installments to Koreans in Japan by the end of last year from 1957.

The government of the DPRK will send a large amount of funds this year, too, as educational aid fund and stipends for the democratic national education of the children of Korean residents in Japan.

This year the government of the DPRK will direct 12.1 percent of the total state budgetary expenditure to national defence to firmly safeguard the security of the socialist homeland and our people in the face of the ever-escalating aggression and war moves of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique.

This year's state budget submitted to the deliberation of the session of the Supreme People's Assembly is an independent budget for economic construction which makes it possible to provide a firm financial guarantee for a new great revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction and a popular budget which is correctly worked out to further promote material and cultural welfare of the people.

The reporter outlined the tasks for successful fulfilment of the state budget for 1990.

To this end, she stressed, it is imperative to press on the ideological, technical, and cultural revolutions under the banner of the chuche idea; actively tap inner reserves; and strengthen the drive for increased production and economy and properly organize economic work as required by the Taean work system.

Credentials Committee Gives Report

SK2505103590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—Kim Chung-nin, chairman of the credentials committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, declared that the deputies elected to the Ninth SPA are true representatives of the working people intensely loyal to the party and the leader and popular among the masses and are well-prepared workers fully capable of satisfactorily discharging their honorable tasks and duties, among them veteran revolutionaries who have fought faithfully for the victory of the revolutionary cause of chuche.

He was delivering a report of the credentials committee to the first session of the Ninth SPA which opened yesterday.

According to the report, the deputies to the SPA include many anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters. Among the deputies workers of industrial establishments who have performed feats in socialist construction account for 37 percent and cooperative farmers 10.4 percent. They also include fine officials of all domains—officials of party and power bodies and economic organs, officials of the working people's organisations, servicemen of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces, men of science and technology, education, public health, culture and art. Religionists as well as officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and its affiliated organisations who are struggling for the democratic national rights of Koreans in Japan and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country are among them.

Members of the Korean social democratic party hold 7.4 percent, members of the Chondoist Chongu Party 3.2 percent and independent deputies 1.9 percent of the deputies. Women occupy 20.1 percent.

Recipients of the "Order of Kim Il-song" and the "Kim Il-song prize", heroes of the republic, labour heroes and those with various honorary titles hold 63.8 percent and doctors, professors and other persons with academic degrees or titles, scientists, technicians and specialists 64.5 percent.

Classified by age groups and schooling, those of and under 35 account for 2.9 percent, those from 36 to 55 56.8 percent and those above 55 40.3 percent and graduates from universities 68.2 percent and from colleges, middle, senior middle and technical schools 31.8 percent.

This tells that our supreme power organ is formed with indomitable revolutionary fighters and faithful servants for the people who have devotedly struggled for the party and the leader. The country and the people, under the wise leadership of the party, and is formed with proper combination of competent officials with rich knowledge and high-grade technology, fine functionaries who have been steeled and experienced in the revolutionary struggle and constructive work and reliable functionaries who will carry the revolution into the new generation, Kim Chung-nin said.

State Budget Gets Approval

SK2505125990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1109 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—The state budget was discussed today at the second-day sitting of the First Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Deputy Yun Ki-chong, finance minister, delivered a report on "The Summing up of the Fulfilment of the State Budget of the DPRK for 1989 and the State Budget for 1990", the third item of the agenda.

Deputy Pak Nam-ki, chairman of the Budget Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, made a report of the budget Committee of the SPA on the summing up of the fulfilment of the state budget of the DPRK for 1989 and the state budget for 1990.

Deputy Kim Yun-hyok, deputy Yim Hyong-ku and many other deputies took the floor.

The speakers said that the reelection of respected Comrade Kim Il-song as president of the state at the current session was a demonstration of the invincible might of our revolutionary ranks united behind the party and the leader with a single heart and an expression of the unshakable will and faith of our people resolved to carry the revolutionary cause of chuche to accomplishment under the guidance of the leader.

Noting that the state budget last year was smoothly implemented and the state budget for this year has been correctly worked out to further increase the economic power of the country and solve the problems of food, clothing and housing for the people more satisfactorily, they expressed full support and approval of it.

The session continues.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Statement on Israel

SK2505040790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1500 GMT 24 May 90

[Statement by the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry]

[Text] Defying the strong denunciation of the Palestinian people and social circles of the world, the Israeli Zionists are more undisguisedly waging repressive and murderous acts in the occupied territories against the Palestinian people.

On 20 May, an armed Israeli fellow fired at innocent Palestinian people with an automatic rifle and massacred seven and injured more than 10 people. Following this, Israeli soldiers again fired at the Palestinian people who rose in a demonstration to protest the massacre, and killed scores of people and injured several hundreds, thus committing a criminal murderous act.

The barbarous massacre against the Palestinian people is an outcome of the Israeli policy of expansionism and racism, and is a shameless crime violently trampling underfoot the principle and regulations of officially-recognized international laws.

The Government of the DPRK and the Korean people sternly denounce the bestial massacre of the Israeli Zionists.

The barbarous act of the Israeli racists, who freely occupied other people's territory and indiscriminately murdered people with the same technique used by the old colonialists of the past, is an intolerable challenge to the conscientious and just people of the world.

The Israeli maneuvers for expansion of territories against Palestine and massacre of its people have been perpetrated under the instigation of the United States.

The progressive people of the world and international community should help end Israel's aggression and massacre through unanimous actions, and should protect the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The Korean people will, in the future, too, actively and invariably support and encourage the Palestinian people's just cause.

[Dated] 24 May 1990, Pyongyang

U.S. Deployment of Tanks in South Criticized

SK2505061090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists reportedly brought in more than 120 "M-1" new-type heavy tanks from the U.S. Mainland from the end of March to replace the "M-60 A3" heavy tanks deployed at the tank battalions of the U.S. Second Infantry Division in South Korea.

They also brought there a technical group which had undergone a systematic training in the operation and maintenance of "M-1" new-type heavy tanks in the mainland and assigned it to the U.S. Second Infantry Division.

Such premeditated arms buildup of the U.S. Imperialists shows that their talk about "detente" and "arms cut" is a sham and that they only seek confrontation and war against the North.

South 'Welder' Defects for 'Worthy Life'

SK2505113390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—A South Korean young man named Chon Kye-pong, 31, came over to the northern half of the country through a third country.

His native place is Silmae-ri, Chahwang Myon, Sanchong county, South Kyongsang province. There are his parents and six brothers and sisters in South Korea.

Born as the third son of a poor peasant, he engaged in labour at the Taesong industrial company after graduating from the agricultural high school in his home town and then served as a puppet police in Sanchong county, South Kyongsang province, for a year or more.

Later, he worked in Seoul as a welder.

Asked about the motive of his defection, Chon Kye-pong told the reporter:

I was deeply impressed when I heard that all the working people in the north freely participate in the state affairs as true masters of the country and live a happy life without worries about food, clothing and housing, irrespective of rank.

As time flowed, I was all the more disillusioned at the corrupt and ailing society of the South where lies, deception and money decide everything.

I did not want to live any longer in the hellish society of the South, a colony of the United States, where the elementary freedom and dignity of man are ruthlessly trampled underfoot.

After confirming again through publications that the socialist North is the very place where I could enjoy a worthy life, I came over to the North seizing the chance of going to a third country in mid-May.

Chonminnyon Sends U.S. Protest Letter

SK2505104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—Three representatives of the "Coalition for National Democratic Movement" of South Korea (Chonminnyon) Thursday went to the American Embassy in Seoul and handed a protest letter addressed to the U.S. secretary of state denouncing the U.S. roles in Kwangju massacre 10 years ago, according to a report.

Determination of truth about Kwangju incident including those who ordered army troops to fire on the patriotic Kwangju citizens has become an important task in South Korea, the letter said.

The letter stressed:

"We firmly believe that the United States cannot be free from responsibility for the Kwangju massacre because the United States has had close relations with South Korea and holds operational control over South Korean forces." "This notwithstanding the United States has neither admitted its responsibility nor offered apologies to the Korean people and to the souls of the Kwangju victims, which we regret."

Noting that it sent an open letter in protest against the insincere attitude of the United States, Chonminnyon urged the U.S. secretary of state to reply.

Chongnyon Denounces No Tae-u's Trip to Japan

SK2405232090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 23 (KNS-KCNA)—The Central Standing committee of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan (Chongnyon) called a press conference on May 23 and published a statement condemning the traitor No Tae-u's trip to Japan with bitter national resentment.

The statement said:

The traitor No Tae-u seeks in his trip to Japan to get more "aid" from Japan, maintain the military "regime" facing a crisis and pursue the fascist policy.

The reactionaries at home and abroad are reeling off a string of deceptive words about his trip, describing it as one aimed at "exploring new, future-oriented relations between South Korea and Japan". But it is, in essence, intended to tighten the insidious tieup between the Japanese militarists who seek to stage a comeback to South Korea and the No Tae-u group which is following them.

Whatever "apology" or decision the Japanese government may make to the No Tae-u group which, isolated from the South Korean people, can represent none of the Korean people, it is entirely null and void.

We strongly demand that the Japanese Government stop obstructing a peaceful reunification of Korea, renounce the "two Koreas" policy and rectify its wrong one-sided policy of encouraging the No Tae-u fascist "regime".

We also demand that the Japanese Government rectify its policy hostile to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and show not in words but in deeds its willingness to improve relations with it.

We will never recognize any decision adopted between the Japanese Government and the No Tae-u group against the will of the Korean and Japanese peoples.

Meeting To Commemorate Chongnyon Held 24 May

SK2505053090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—A national meeting commemorating the 35th anniversary of the formation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) was held at the People's Palace of Culture Thursday [24 May].

Chongnyon, a dignified organisation of overseas citizens of the DPRK and the first chuche-type organisation of overseas compatriots, was inaugurated on May 25, 1955, under the wise leadership of the great leader president Kim Il-song.

Participating in the meeting were Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier; other officials concerned and working people in the city and returnees from Japan.

The members of the group of Koreans from Japan visiting the homeland to express thanks on the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon headed by Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of the central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, and other Chongnyon delegations and visiting groups, and compatriots from Japan staying in the socialist homeland were also present.

Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the WPK Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, made a report.

He said:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward a chuche-oriented policy of switchover in the line and wisely led the struggle for its realisation, bringing into being Chongnyon, the overseas compatriots' organisation of new type, whose guiding idea is the immortal chuche idea.

With its formation the Koreans' movement in Japan got rid of the filth of flunkeyism and dogmatism and began vigorously advancing on the orbit of chuche, opening a proud history of the overseas compatriots' movement based on the chuche idea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"Over the past 35 years Chongnyon has successfully mobilized the patriotic zeal of Koreans of broad strata in Japan to perform proud feats for the country and the nation, invariably cherishing boundless loyalty to its glorious homeland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

Chongnyon, as the mouthpiece and defender of the true rights and interests of Koreans in Japan, has firmly defended the DPRK citizenship and business right, the rights to national education, to repatriation and travel to the homeland and other democratic national rights and proudly displayed the national dignity and honor of the socialist homeland.

The grand march for national reunification, meetings, demonstrations, signature campaigns and other forms of mass movement which have been constantly waged by

Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan eloquently demonstrated their burning desire and indomitable will to achieve national reunification at any cost, dealt a heavy blow at the splittists at home and abroad bent on the creation of "two Koreas" and powerfully inspired the South Korean people and students in the noble struggle for independence, democracy and national reunification.

In the international arena Chongnyon has conducted unremitting external activities to enhance the authority of the great leader in every way and strengthen solidarity with the world's progressives including the Japanese people and thus registered remarkable successes in creating an international environment favorable to national reunification.

All the successes and achievements made in the movement of Koreans in Japan over the past 35 years are a brilliant victory of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's chuche-based idea of the movement of Koreans overseas, he stressed.

He pointed out that dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has set it as the general task of Chongnyon to model Chongnyon on the chuche idea, upholding the great leader's noble intention, and thus indicated the way of defending the chuche character of Chongnyon for ever and strengthening and developing the movement of Koreans in Japan into a patriotic movement of chuche.

The reporter stressed that Chongnyon and the compatriots in Japan should consolidate their brilliant achievements in the past period, strengthen Chongnyon organizationally and ideologically and develop the patriotic movement in depth in keeping with the changed reality to lift the movement of the Koreans in Japan to a new, higher stage.

Speaking at the meeting, Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee, declared:

As in the past, so in the future, too, we will strengthen and develop Chongnyon into a mighty organization of citizens overseas of the DPRK which will remain loyal for ever to the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Kim Yong-nam Speaks at Reception

SK2505063690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea arranged a film show and reception Thursday at the People's Palace of Culture on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the formation of the general association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

Invited there were foreign diplomatic envoys here and Cho Il-min, chief of the Pyongyang mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon).

Present there were vice-premiers of the Administration Council—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chairman of the External Economy Commission Kim Tal-hyon and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol; director of the General Bureau for Overseas Compatriots Affairs Kim Chu-yong and other officials concerned.

The members of the group of Koreans from Japan visiting the homeland to express thanks on the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon headed by Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, and other Chongnyon delegations and visiting groups staying in the socialist homeland were also present.

The participants saw a documentary film of Chongnyon "May Chongnyon Shine".

Then followed a reception.

Vice-premier Kim Yong-nam and Mustafa Al-Safarini, ambassador of the state of Palestine, who is doyen of the diplomatic corps here spoke there.

Kim Il-song Receives Group

SK2505124190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1101 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the group of Koreans from Japan visiting the socialist homeland to express thanks on the 35th anniversary of the formation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) headed by Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of its Central Standing Committee.

Present on the occasion were Yun Ki-pok and officials concerned.

The group presented to President Kim Il-song a basket of flowers carrying the loyal hearts of the entire functionaries of Chongnyon and the 700,000 Koreans in Japan on the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon, and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song warmly congratulated the Chongnyon functionaries and Koreans in Japan on this anniversary and had a cordial conversation with the members of the group.

He arranged a luncheon for the group.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Yemeni Leader

SK2505044290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0359 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (LCMA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings to 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on May 24 upon his election as president of the Presidential Council of the Republic of Yemen.

The proclamation of the Republic of Yemen through the reunification of Yemen is a historical event of weighty significance in the life of the Yemeni people, the message said.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples will grow stronger and develop in future in conformity with the idea of independence, peace and friendship, it sincerely wished President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the Yemeni people great success in the work for consolidating their country's reunification and building a prosperous new Yemen.

MINJU CHOSON Hails Republic

*SK2505111090 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1027 GMT 25 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today carries an article hailing the proclamation of the Republic of Yemen after the reunification of North Yemen and Democratic Yemen into one state on May 22.

The author of the article says:

The reunification of the two Yemens into a republic is a heavy blow to the splittist moves of the imperialists and colonialists and a brilliant fruition of the Yemeni people's struggle to build a unified country.

The Korean people rejoice as over their own over the realization of the desire of Yemeni people in the North and South to live in a country, and extend warm congratulations to them.

It is too natural for the people who were divided into two by the imperialists' aggressive and splittist manoeuvres to reunify into one.

Those who lay obstacles in the way of Korea's reunification and seek its permanent division must draw due lessons from the global trend toward reunification and act with discretion.

Our people wish the Yemeni people who achieved the reunification great success in their endeavours to liquidate the aftermath of the division, defend the reunification and build a democratic and prosperous country, and are convinced that friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Yemeni peoples will develop more favourably.

Article Lauds Jordan on Independence Anniversary

*SK2505112590 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1033 GMT 25 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today dedicates a signed article to the 44th anniversary of the independence of Jordan.

The article notes that the independence of Jordan was a historical event which opened a broad road for the Jordanian people to create a new life.

Since the independence the Jordanian people have achieved success in the struggle for the creation of a new life, it says, and goes on:

The Jordanian Government has made efforts for peace and stability in the Middle East, pursuing a non-aligned foreign policy.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the achievements made by the Jordanian people in the struggle to build a new life.

The Korean and Jordanian peoples forged the bonds of friendship and have strengthened and developed it.

Believing that the friendly relations between the two peoples will grow stronger, the Korean people sincerely wish the Jordanian people greater success in their struggle for the creation of a new life.

Rwandan Figure Arrives in Pyongyang 24 May

*SK2505055690 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0407 GMT 25 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—Rudahunga Ignace [name as received], chief of the political service and international cooperation of the Central Committee of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development of Rwanda, and a delegation of Belgian parliamentarians arrived here by air on May 24.

Article Marks 'Day of Liberation of Africa'

*SK2505123990 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1104 GMT 25 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today dedicates a signed article to the "Day of Liberation of Africa".

The Korean people extend felicitations and militant greetings to the African people who are striving to build a prosperous, new Africa free from imperialism, colonialism and racism, the article says, and goes on:

Great success has been registered in the energetic struggle for the complete liberation of Africa and for the creation of a new life on the African continent.

All African countries have achieved national independence by waging the national liberation struggle to put an end to the imperialist colonial rule everywhere.

With the independence of Namibia in March this year, the decolonization process ended in Africa.

Since the independence, the African people have energetically striven to liquidate the aftermath of the colonial rule and build national economy and culture under the banner of anti-imperialist independence.

The organization of African unity has played a big role here.

Thanks to the vigorous struggle of the African people the looks of Africa have greatly changed. But, the cause of the African people's struggle against imperialism and racism has not yet been accomplished.

Owing to the moves of the imperialists and the South African racists, the situation of the countries around South Africa and other African countries is tense and the South African people are groaning under the policy of racial discrimination and apartheid.

Such moves of the imperialists and South African racists are no more than the last-ditch effort of those who are doomed to ruin.

The Korean people will in the future, too, as in the past stand on the side of the African people and extend firm solidarity with their struggle.

Hydrometeorological Pact Signed With China

SK2505060490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0408 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 25 (KCNA)—An agreement on hydrological cooperation between the Hydrometeorological Bureau of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China was signed here Thursday.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Yi Kon-il, director of the Hydrometeorological Bureau, and other officials concerned and on the Chinese side were the members of the delegation of the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources headed by its Vice-Minister Niu Maosheng and officials of the Chinese Embassy here.

South Korea

IISS Says North Accumulating Chemical Weapons

SK2505123890 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 25 May 90 p 5

[Report by AFP-YONHAP from London]

[Text] An annual strategy report released on 24 May by the International Institute for Strategic Studies [IISS] noted that the press in Korea has been liberalized, that student demonstrations have become more violent as time goes by, that labor unions are carrying out their activities vigorously, and that the political system is gradually being democratized.

Referring to North Korea, this 240-page report said that "North Korea is accumulating chemical weapons and acquiring technology and fuel for building nuclear weapons" and that "North Korea's nuclear ambition has prompted worry among countries concerned and that, as a result, this issue was discussed at the October 1989 talks between U.S. Secretary of State Baker and Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Shevardnadze.

After saying so without quoting well-informed sources, this report also pointed out that North Korea is at a crossroads between whether it will remain isolated in an effort to maintain its strong-hand domestic policies or whether it will join the ongoing trend of change in Asia to revive its economy, which is facing difficulties.

Students Protest No Tae-u's Visit to Japan

SK2505035490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 May 90 p 3

[Text] Thousands of student radicals opposed to President No Tae-u's Japan visit clashed with riot police across the country Thursday [24 May], eye-witnesses and local press reports said.

Hundreds of riot police firing tear gas repeatedly stormed Yonsei University in Seoul to disperse an estimated 300 students, engaging in hectic fights.

National Yonhap news agency said police also entered Choson University in the southwestern provincial city of Kwangju, a hotbed of anti-government protests, to break up a demonstration by some 1,000 students.

PPD Claims Akihito Apology Lacked 'Sincerity'

SK2505065990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0543 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean cabinet will not make an official comment on Japanese emperor Akihito's apology for his country's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula early this century, but views it as "more advanced," a government official said Friday.

Cabinet members had discussed the apology, made during a state dinner in President No Tae-u's honor Thursday, and decided not to comment officially in order not to affect No's state visit to Tokyo, the official said.

Some ministers at the cabinet's regular meeting late Thursday said the apology fell short of South Korea's demands and voiced skepticism that the phrase "deepest regret" could be construed as a real apology, the official said.

Akihito said, "I think of the suffering your people underwent during the unfortunate period, which was brought about by my country, and cannot but feel the deepest regret."

The opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], headed by Kim Tae-chung, said the apology lacked "sincerity."

"The words 'deepest regret' are seen as one-step advanced from the past apology but lacked sincerity for the real liquidation of the past and opening of a new pacific era," a PPD statement said.

Another opposition group, the tentatively named Democratic Party (DP), expressed regret over "Japan's insincere attitude."

"We think it is very regrettable for Japan to have made an apology with unsatisfactory and vague expressions such as 'deepest regret'," a DP statement said.

Figures View Normalization of Ties With USSR

SK2505025890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 May 90 p 5

[Text] Anatoliy F. Dobrynin, former Soviet ambassador to the United States, was optimistic about the prospects for the normalization of full diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union.

"We are on the right path as both countries are improving relations step by step," Dobrynin said.

Dobrynin, current advisor to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on foreign affairs, was here for the first time to participate in the eighth session of the InterAction Council (IAC) May 23-26.

During a reception for the participants Wednesday evening, Dobrynin met with Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, who visited the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO) and met Soviet President Gorbachev in March.

Dobrynin refused to comment, when asked for his observations concerning a remark by Kim Yong-sam that diplomatic relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union will be normalized by the end of this year.

When Kim Yong-sam said, "All things between the two countries will go well," Dobrynin answered in reply, "We will have good relations with Korea."

Dobrynin said that Yevgeniy Primakov sent his best regards to Kim Yong-sam, who met him during Kim's Moscow visit.

"I heard that you met Gorbachev and had a worth while discussion about international relations," Dobrynin told Kim Yong-sam.

The 71-year-old veteran diplomat will be staying here until Saturday when he will fly to Washington to prepare for the forthcoming summit talks between U.S. President George Bush and Gorbachev later this month.

Asked about his first impression on Korea, Dobrynin said in English, "Very good."

Meanwhile, a leading Chinese economic expert said that the normalization of relations between South Korea and the People's Republic of China will be preceded by the improvement of relations between South and North Korea.

Pu Shan, president of the Chinese Society of World Economy, said, "The relations between South and North Korea should be improved first," when he was asked to cite obstacles to the establishment of full diplomatic relations between South Korea and China.

When he was asked if the normalization of relations between China and South Korea will come automatically when relations between the two Koreas are improved to a certain extent, Pu Shan said, "That's right."

"Our relations with North Korea are very important," said Pu Shan. He said that he has been lecturing on economics at Beijing University for years.

NAEWOE PRESS Notes North Personnel Changes

SK2505031890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0240 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—Kim Chong-il, eldest son and heir-apparent of North Korean leader Kim Il-song, was Thursday [24 May] made no. 2 man in the national defense commission after his father, North Korean radio reported.

On the first day of a Supreme People's Assembly session, the junior Kim, 48, was elected first vice chairman of the commission, which was enlarged Thursday, according to NAEWOE PRESS, Seoul's watcher of affairs in the communist world. The number of vice chairmen on the panel was increased from one to nine.

Other vice chairmen include Armed Forces Minister O Chin-u, who had been the sole vice chairman, and Gen. Choe Kwang, army chief of general staff.

The appointment of the junior Kim to the defense commission is designed to strengthen his influence in the military, according to observers.

The assembly re-elected Kim Il-song as president for another four years and retained vice presidents Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol. It also re-elected technocrat Yon Hyong-muk as head of the Administration Council.

The 687-strong ninth Assembly was formed in an unprecedented snap election on April 22, six months ahead of schedule.

Defense Minister O was dropped from the Central People's Committee, while Yang Hyong-sop and Yo Yon-ku were retained as chairman and vice chairman respectively of the Assembly Standing Committee. Paek In-chun, chairman of the General Federation of Unions of Korean Literature and Arts, replaced Son Song-pil, who was named ambassador to the Soviet Union, as vice chairman of the standing committee.

The Assembly, which established the Committee for the Peaceful Unification of the Fatherland last November, set up a Unification Policy Deliberation Committee with Yun Ki-pok, party secretary and vice chairman of the Committee for Peaceful Unification, as chairman.

Observers here said creation of the new panel was designed for the Assembly to positively cope with external affairs, including relations with South Korea.

On the administration council, Chong Chun-ki, who has served as a deputy premier since 1973, was dismissed and Choe Yong-nim, chairman of the State Planning Commission, Kim Tal-hyon, chairman of the external economic cooperation [as received], and Chang Chol, culture and art minister, were made deputy premiers.

Kim Il-song's Proposal to UN Reported

SK2505032490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0215 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korean leader Kim Il-song proposed Thursday [24 May] that South and North Korea share a seat in the United Nations, according to official sources.

"If North and South are to join the United Nations before Korea's reunification is achieved, they must not hold two separate seats but enter jointly as one member," Kim said in a policy speech after being reelected president by the Supreme People's Assembly, North Korea's rubber-stamp parliament.

Kim's remarks on U.N. entry are seen here as a shift from his call for U.N. Membership only after the two sides agree to form a confederation, which he has named the confederate republic of Koryo.

The South has argued for Seoul and Pyongyang to simultaneously join the world body, saying that otherwise it will seek admission alone.

Kim made it clear that North Korea opposes simultaneous entry of both Koreas, claiming this would internationally legitimize the division of the Korean peninsula and set new obstacles on the path to reunification, the officials said.

The apparent policy shift may be part of Pyongyang's efforts to come out from isolation, or a gesture of openness sparked by the democratization movements in eastern Europe, they said.

Kim's remarks come as inter-Korean dialogue on various levels is suspended and the North shows no signs of resuming contact with the South.

The government of South Korea has yet to officially comment on Kim's unexpected proposal for U.N. entry.

The North Korean leader said "four problems" should be solved to realize reunification, according to the sources.

He cited the creation of peaceful circumstances, the realization of free movement and total openness between the two Koreas, the development in South-North dialogue and the forming of an "all-national reunification frontline," they said.

To create peaceful circumstance, Kim contended, U.S. forces stationed in Korea should be withdrawn and a peace treaty signed between Pyongyang and Washington as well as a non-aggression pact between the two Koreas.

Kim, 78, was also quoted as saying reunification of the Korean peninsula, divided at the end of World War II, was his government's most pressing task and as reiterating a call for free movement of people from both sides.

But Kim failed to indicate a basic change in North Korea's hard-line attitude toward South Korea and called for dismantling the "concrete wall," which the South says does not exist, in the Demilitarized Zone and abolishing the South's National Security Law, the officials said.

Estimates on North's Nuclear Status Reviewed

SK2505122090 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 25 May 90 p 23

[Article by reporter An Hui-chang]

[Text] The rest of the world still does not know the level of North Korea's nuclear technology or the status of its nuclear facilities.

Until recently, what had been known was that the level of North Korea's nuclear technology was very low and very dependent upon Soviet technology.

Since July 1989, however, North Korea's nuclear technology has been reassessed. That was when THE WASHINGTON POST reported that "U.S. military satellites have spotted two nuclear facilities under construction in Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang, and these facilities are related to the production of plutonium used in manufacturing nuclear weapons."

In September 1989, JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY, a British military magazine, highly assessed North Korea's technology by reporting that "North Korea will manufacture nuclear weapons in five years."

When the Technological Informational Center of Japan's Tokai University made public a satellite photo of the Yongbyon area last February, discussions on the current level of North Korea's nuclear capability began.

This photo, taken by France's civilian Spot [as published] satellite from 830 kilometers above North Korea, clearly showed a building that looked like a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility, labs, and even houses for officials among the Yongbyon facilities along Kuryong River.

Current data on North Korea officially released by the International Atomic Energy Agency show that North Korea has a nuclear reactor for research purposes and two less powerful nuclear reactors in Yongbyon. The data also show that one of the nuclear reactors, which is used for research purposes, has been operational since August 1965, that it is operated eight hours daily 48 weeks a year, and that it has an annual capacity of 8,000 kilowatts.

Other sources, however, report that in Yongbyon there is a small 2,000- to 4,000-kilowatt nuclear reactor for research purposes, which the Soviet Union supplied in August 1965, and a 30-megawatt nuclear reactor, which North Korea developed independently.

Recently, the United States insisted that "North Korea has begun independently building a 500,000- to 2 million-kilowatt nuclear reactor in Yongbyon," hinting that North Korea's nuclear capability has continued to grow.

This capability of North Korea is inferior to that of South Korea, which has nine commercial nuclear reactors and other nuclear power stations whose generating capacity amounts to 7,616 megawatts.

In terms of North Korea's capability for nuclear armaments, in particular, the United States estimates that 200 to 500 tons of spent nuclear fuel has been produced so far by the 30-megawatt nuclear reactor and that, with this spent nuclear fuel, 13 to 33 atomic bombs, each one as powerful as the one dropped on Hiroshima during World War II, can be manufactured a year.

JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY (September 1989 edition) estimated that seven to eight kilograms of spent nuclear fuel had been produced and that one or two small atomic bombs could be manufactured with it.

In addition, after signing an agreement with the Soviet Union to build nuclear power stations, North Korea is carrying out the building of four 44-megawatt nuclear reactors.

In connection with this, during a 1 March 1990 news interview, Gerasimov, a spokesman for the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said: Work is under way to find sites, and a decision on sites will be made by early 1992. The design, manufacture, and supply of nuclear reactors will start after 1994 at the earliest."

Assessments of North Korea's capability to reprocess spent nuclear fuel are varied.

The United States is almost positive that there is a facility for reprocessing spent nuclear fuel and a facility for testing nuclear detonation devices in Yongbyon.

The photo taken by the Spot satellite shows that a large-scale nuclear reactor in the center looks like a G-2-type gas cooler and that a long rectangular facility near the bottom of the photo looks very much like a spent nuclear fuel reprocessing facility. This supports the firm belief of the United States.

Some scientists say that "a satellite photo is not enough." Therefore, it is difficult to directly link North Korea's facilities to the possibility of North Korea's nuclear development.

Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that it was learned that North Korea, which had mainly relied on the Soviet Union, has been trying to achieve technological self-reliance by way of researchers from the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.

Pyongyang Plans Capitalist Management for Hotel

SK2505021090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 May 90 p 2

[Text] Tokyo (REUTER)—Communist North Korea plans to turn the world's tallest hotel into a model of capitalist management, with many facilities run by foreigners, a Japanese newspaper reported Wednesday.

The Willow-Capital Hotel, 105 storeys with 3,000 rooms, has been under construction in the capital, Pyongyang, since 1988 and is due to open in June, 1992.

Hyundai Labor, Management Agreement Concluded

SK2505035690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 29 May 90 p 3

[Text] Ulsan, Kyongsangnam-to—Management and labor of Hyundai Motor Co. concluded an agreement yesterday after management accepted labor's demand to drop charges against union leaders which the company had filed during last December's labor dispute.

Both sides also agreed to resume normal operations next Monday [28 May]. Autoworkers will be allowed to have paid leave for three days from today, a company spokesman said.

Hyundai Motor President Chon Song-won and union leader Yi Sang-pom signed the agreement after more than four hours of negotiations between Wednesday night and early yesterday morning.

The union decided not to put the agreement to a unionists' vote.

About 500 radical unionists demonstrated for 30 minutes from 9 a.m. yesterday demanding a vote on the agreement.

Chanting "Resign union leadership," the workers staged a sit-in in front of the union office.

The new accord calls for an increase of a uniform 39,000 won in monthly basic pay, 7.6 percent, and a 15,000-won hike in allowances.

The latest agreement stipulates that management withdraw all lawsuits and complaints filed last December against union leaders over labor disputes.

The company agreed to make all-out efforts to release unionists arrested during protests against a police raid into Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. April 28.

The two sides agreed that workers should not be paid for the strike period but that the company will pay "consolation money" by August.

Daelim Starts Work on Iran Gas Refinery

SK2505070190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0602 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—Daelim Industrial Co. of South Korea has started construction of a 240 million-U.S.-dollar gas refinery in Iran, industry sources said Friday.

According to the sources, Daelim began work on the 30-month project early this month at the request of the Iranian Government.

It is the second phase of the first Kangan gas refinery, which Daelim is also constructing. Each of the plants will be able to refine 34 million cubic meters of natural gas per day, the sources said.

It is the second Iranian contract won by a Korean construction company since the end of Iran-Iraq war in August 1988. Ssangyong Construction Co. received a 31 million-dollar order for an oil tank in Kharg on March 10.

Work on the first phase of the Kangan plant was suspended after an air raid by Iraqi bombers on June 1988 killed 13 Korean workers and is to be completed in October. Daelim resumed construction in September 1988.

ROK Outlines Space Research for Next Decade

OW2105143390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1341 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 21 KYODO—South Korea will attempt to develop and launch its own rockets and satellites over the next decade in a three-stage program, Dr. Kim Sung-kyu of the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI) said Monday.

Speaking at the opening day of the international symposium on space technology and science, Kim revealed for the first time South Korea's plan to aim for the stars with domestically produced rockets and satellites. According to Kim's presentation, KARI will conduct a number of experiments in the upper atmosphere during the first stage of development this year and hopes to launch a low orbit satellite with an imported rocket in 1993. In the second stage of the project 1994-96, KARI plans to develop and launch its own rocket and scientific satellite through the cooperation of foreign enterprises with advanced space technology, he said. Between 1997-99, the third and final stage, South Korean scientists will develop their own satellite and rocket for launching. Kim estimates that 20 percent of the first stage of the project will be domestically produced, 50 percent of the second stage, and 80 percent by the final stage. "This is the first year that we've pulled this plan together. So, we are still working out the details of the plan," said Kim.

KARI was established last October under the umbrella of the South Korean Ministry of Science and Technology. Recently, South Korean space communications authorities decided to try and have a communications satellite for domestic use in operation by 1996.

Exports to ASEAN Increase in 1990 1st Quarter

SK2505021890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 May 90 p 6

[Text] The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is emerging as a major market for Korean products when overall Korean exports are in the doldrums.

Korean exports to the ASEAN grew 31.4 percent to $1,098 million during the first three months of this year over the corresponding period of last year.

During the same period, overall Korean exports dropped 1.2 percent to $13,903 million.

Korean exports to the ASEAN did not include those to Brunei. The other ASEAN members are Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore.

The 31.4 percent growth during the first quarter followed the high growth rates of 55.2 percent in 1988 and 30.6 percent in 1989.

The share of exports to the ASEAN in Korea's total exports increased from 5 percent in 1988 to 7.9 percent during the first quarter of this year.

Korean exports of consumer products including electronic home appliances and apparel remained stable or dropped slightly last year.

But exports of chemicals and heavy-industry products to the ASEAN grew 30 percent or more last year.

The items of high growth in exports to the ASEAN included textiles, electronic parts, general machinery and materials.

The growth rate was 51.3 percent for general machinery, 48.1 percent for textiles and 29.8 percent for electronic parts.

Korean exports to the ASEAN, which has one of the highest economic growth rates in the world, are expected to increase sharply in the years ahead, the Korean Ministry of Trade and Industry said yesterday.

With its 1989 GDP growth rate at 7.6 percent, the ministry said, combined imports by Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines are expected to more than double from $53 billion in 1988 to $120 billion in 1994.

The share of machinery, equipment and materials in exports is expected to rise further as ASEAN members are pushing for industrialization and Korean companies are promoting joint ventures with their ASEAN counterparts, it said.

Korea bought almost as much from the ASEAN as it sold during the first quarter of this year.

Korean imports amounted to $1,028 million, up 7.5 percent from the corresponding period of last year.

Crude oil and other fuel imports grew 32.7 percent and 18.3 percent last year, respectively.

But natural rubber and timber imports dropped 18.1 percent and 2.2 percent as the ASEAN members restricted those exports.

The share of imports from the ASEAN in Korea's total imports grew slightly from 6.3 percent last year to 6.5 percent during the first quarter of this year.

Should Korea's trade surplus, which was small during the first quarter of this year, grow substantially, the ministry said. [printed as published] Korea will have to explore items for possible importation from the ASEAN.

It was not Korea alone which benefited from expanded trade with the ASEAN.

Exports by Japan and Taiwan to the ASEAN grew 21.4 percent and 33.2 percent last year, respectively.

Their imports from the ASEAN fell below the level of their exports.

Economic Growth Recorded in First Quarter

SK2505024690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 May 90 p 6

[News analysis by staff reporter Yi Kap-su]

[Text] Korean economy's 10.3 percent growth in the first quarter of 1990, the first double-digit growth since the last quarter of 1988, shows a possibility that the nation will regain its vitality soon.

It will certainly be one of the most spectacular economic performance in the world. The real GNP growth rate in the first quarter of the year is estimated at 2.1 percent for the United States, 7.4 percent for Taiwan, and 10.1 percent for Singapore, according to a central bank report.

Korea's GNP growth rate hovered around 12 to 13 percent in the 1985-1988 period, but slipped to a one-digit growth beginning in 1989.

The year-to-year GNP growth for 1989 stood at 6.2 percent in the first quarter, 7.5 percent in the second, 5.9 percent in the third, and 7.3 percent in the fourth.

Many economic experts said however, that it is too early to conclude that the nation's economy will recapture its powerful strength of the past soon.

The reason is that the nation's 10.3 percent GNP growth was largely powered by the construction sector, whose output expanded an impressive 39.1 percent this year from a year earlier.

However the handsome growth of construction industry was not resulted from overseas construction boom but from brisk domestic housing construction in line with the government plans to supply 2 million new houses by 1993.

The fact indicates that the growth of the construction industry has a limited potential, and might end its boom two or three years from now.

But other analysts said that there are many good signs which will enable the Korean economy to regain its vitality sooner or later.

One of the most conspicuous phenomena is the favorable performance in the manufacturing industry, the backbone of the nation's export-oriented economy.

Led by transportation equipment and machinery, the production in the manufacturing sector expanded 7.1 percent in the first quarter, representing nearly four times the figure marked a year earlier.

The manufacturing industry's contribution to Korea's economic growth also rose from 13.2 percent in the first quarter of 1989 to 27.5 percent this year.

The contribution ratio still falls short of the 40-50 percent in the 1986-1988 period, but the continuing depreciation of the won currency against the dollar and the easing of labor-management disputes will help manufacturers expand their contribution, the economists said.

Another encouraging trend is that investment in industrial facilities in the first quarter, which will affect the nation's economic performance in the years ahead, showed a remarkable increase.

Facility investments, chiefly centered on industrial machinery, telecommunication equipment and cars, expanded 18.6 percent in the first three months of this year, compared with 7.3 percent a year earlier.

However, there are still many obstacles the nation must overcome to regain its past economic growth, dubbed by many foreigners as "miracle of the Han River," economic experts said.

The most worrisome finding from the report of the Bank of Korea is that merchandise exports still remained in the doldrums.

The export sector's contribution to the nation's economic growth in the first quarter was a mere 8.1 percent, an improvement from minus 23.1 percent in the same period of 1988 but a significant drop from 60.0 percent in the corresponding period of 1988.

While exports were experiencing a slump, imports were rising at an alarming pace, a trend which was blamed on Korea's import liberalization program and rising consumerism.

Merchandise imports soared 15.2 percent this year, exceeding the 12.4 percent in the first quarter of 1989, and the consumption in the private sector climbed 11.9 percent this year, against last year's 10.2 percent.

Taking these and other factors into consideration, the success of the Korean economy will largely depend on whether exports will perk up and the excessive consumerism will be subdued, many economists said.

Report on Leprosarium, Treatment of Lepers

SK2505050090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 25 May 90 p 3

[By staff reporter Kim Su-yong]

[Text] Sorok Island—More than 1,600 people live in seclusion on this picturesque island off the South Coast, farming and raising livestock.

The island, some 600 meters off the southwestern tip of the Kohung Peninsula, is blessed with dense forests, a long beach of white sand and a lovely park.

It is called Sorokto in Korean because the islet resembles a small deer. It has been a homely colony for people suffering from Hansen's disease for more than 70 years.

But it is not completely closed to the outside world. The beach is open to visitors during the summer season. A hospital ship plies between the island and Noktong, the nearest inland area. Visitors, however, are banned from entering the off-limits area used exclusively for curing lepers.

The leprosarium now accommodates 1,610 lepers, including 400 married couples, who form eight communities. And hospital staffers, including doctors and nurses, number 234.

Son Tae-hyo, director of the National Sorokto Hospital, says the number of residents at the colony is decreasing rapidly.

The patients topped 6,000 in the 1950s. Ever since, there has been a 100-patient decrease on average per year, Son says.

Last year saw 179 lepers discharged from the leprosarium, including 110 who died of old age. Only 44 people were newly admitted, according to Son.

If this trend remains unchanged, the number is expected to drop to 500 or below by the year 2000, he says.

The leprosarium now faces a difficult situation in securing enough nurse's assistants and attendants who provide a helping hand to physically handicapped or blind patients, Son says.

People aged 65 or older account for 44 percent of the total.

Son stresses the need for developing the leprosarium into a town for promoting the welfare of such unfortunate elderly lepers in the future, saying that some former inmates are reluctant to return here because of the bad impression they got during the Japanese colonial rule of the nation.

The leprosarium, opened in 1916, celebrates the 75th anniversary of its creation next year.

Foreign missionaries began to take care of lepers in 1910.

Son laments, "Funerals for the dead inmates take place without their relatives who refuse to visit the island. The reason is that publicity about their family members' infection with the disease may taint the honor of their families."

"Although people still contract the centuries-old disease, scientists have not yet determined how the disease is transmitted," he says.

Leprosy, introduced in Korea around the 13th century, is curable if lepers receive proper treatment at the initial stage, he says. King Sejong (1418-1450) of the Choson Dynasty is said to have conducted relief work for lepers.

Son says there are only 10-odd medical specialists on leprosy in the country. "It means that the disease is already considered one of the fading medical fields."

Four doctors at the hospital are public health doctors who are obliged to work here for one year instead of active military duty and leave the leper colony to obtain lucrative jobs, he says.

Health authorities estimate that the number of Hansen's disease victims stands at about 50,000 in the country.

At present, 24,487 people are registered with health centers across the nation as cured lepers or positive patients who can transmit leprosy to other persons. The positive patients total 1,556.

Out of the total 24,487, 12,573 people or 51.4 percent receive medical treatment at their homes after registering at nearby health centers while 8,681 people or 35.5 percent live in 101 rehabilitation centers.

Only 3,233 people or 13.1 percent are accommodated at the National Sorokto Hospital and five privately run special hospitals.

Official figures show that the prevalence rate of the contagious disease decreased from 0.91 out of every 1,000 people to 0.62 in 1985 and 0.59 in 1989.

The prevalence rate is likely to reach the near zero point by the year 2,000, equivalent to the level in advanced countries such as Japan, Son predicts. The disease is widespread in East Asian countries and other tropical regions, according to him.

There are 87 nurse's assistants who received certificates after finishing a nine-month course at the leprosarium.

Those "angles in white" take good care of elderly lepers, bathing them.

Pak Chong-hwa, a nurse's assistant, recalls that an elderly inmate, with two artificial legs and his body reduced to bones, donated 100,000 won he held to nurses before he died last September.

"I want to help them as much as I can," she says.

* USFK To Move Headquarters to Pyongtaek

902C0195 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 28 Mar 90 p 11

[Text] Pyongtaek, located in Kyonggi Province, clearly is becoming the choice for relocating U.S. Forces in Korea [USFK] Headquarters elements located at Yongsan.

According to a 27 March Ministry of Defense report, a meeting between Minister Yi Sang-hun, Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha, U.S. Ambassador Gregg, and USFK Commanding General Menetrey was held at Ambassador Gregg's residence on 15 March.

At that four-man meeting the move to Pyongtaek was confirmed and a working-level group was formed to study the cost of the move, the feasibility of facilities construction, and so forth. By June, the ROK and the United States plan to exchange a formal letter of agreement regarding the move.

According to a Ministry of Defense official, Pyongtaek was selected because ample USFK facilities already exist at Pyongtaek and, compared with other cities such as Taejon, there is less anti-USFK feeling in Pyongtaek.

On 16 February the ROK defense minister and the U.S. secretary of defense agreed in a meeting to finally resolve the issue concerning the USFK Headquarters move by 31 March. A suitable location for the USFK Headquarters has been sought since that date.

To date, the cities seriously considered as location sites for the USFK Headquarters were Taejon and Osan. However, Taejon was ruled out because of strong anti-U.S. feelings in that city. Because Osan long has been home of the U.S. 7th Air Force Command, it was decided not to move the USFK Headquarters there.

* 100,000 Students To Visit North Korea

902C0196 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 27 Mar 90 p 1

[Text] On 26 March, Chondaehyop announced that "a signature drive has been started to obtain ten million signatures to support the sending of 100,000 students from 1,000 college departments on a mass visit to North Korea, and to support freedom of travel between the north and south." According to the acting chairman of Chondaehyop, Song Kap-sok (Senior at the Chonnam University, 23 years old), "crushing such issues as the efforts by the United States and the dictatorial DLP (Demoratic Liberal Party) to keep the peninsula permanently divided by trying to have the ROK enter the United Nations alone, and protect and promote the peoples' right to live, etc., are the Chodaehyop's main tasks for this year. To succeed at these tasks, the first half of the school year will be devoted to support the survival of the Chonnohyop (Federation of National Labor Union), and to achieve free travel and an open door relationship between the north and south. Chondaehyop, along with the Nohakyon (Student labor Union) groups, plans to send 100,000 students to visit the north in three increments; 10 June, 7 July and 15 August of this year." Mr. Song further stated, "this 'visit North Korea drive' began in response to desires expressed by the students and the public at last year's student body elections. And some colleges have formed committees which will survey the north." He continued, that "a ten million signature drive for north-south free travel, release national security violators from prisons, abolish national security laws and 'learn about North Korea correctly campaigns,' etc. will also be promoted at the same time." Mr. Song continued that in the future, these movements will be carried out not only by and for students, but will also be conducted in the interest of private groups and the public. Chondaehyop's drive for "visit North Korea by academic departments" started last year at Kyonghui University when the Department of History requested government permission to visit the north for research at Koguryo Kindom's ruins. It is known that on 23 March, a second preparation committee was formed, and the Departments of Korean Literature at Kyonghui and Konguk Universities completed the organization of its preparation committees, basic study matters and questionaires for research in the north during the summer vacation. It is also known that as a unit, the art college on the Ansong campus of Chungang University has started preparing for a visit to North Korea; and the Korea University of Foreign Studies at the Yongin Campus (the alma mater of Miss Yim Su-kyong, who attended North Korea's Youth Festival last year) is planning a student body sponsored visit to North Korea. Chondaehyop also stated that "student groups organized by academic majors, mutual interests and religions are discussing the North Korea visit issue." Together with the Chonminyon and the dissident groups, Sochongyon (Federation of Seoul Area Youth Groups) is also conducting a ten million signature drive to call for full open and free travel between the north and the south. It plans to have its representatives deliver the results of its signature drive to the United Nations in October.

* ROK-USSR Economic Cooperation Developing

902C0191A Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 24 Mar 90 p 7

[Article by reporter Kim Ki-chon]

[Text] Lately, ROK-USSR economic cooperation has been developing rapidly.

As the bilateral relationship has been unfolding conspicuously in the political and diplomatic realm as seen by the agreement reached between the two countries last year for the mutual establishment of consular offices, and the recent Moscow visit by Kim Yong-sam, the supreme committee representative of the Democratic Liberal Party, the bilaterial economic relationship is also being normalized.

Among other things, the volume of the commodity trade between South Korea and the Soviet Union has shown a sharp increase from the level of $200 million to that of $600 million last year, and the items of trade have also been expanding from primarily those of daily necessities to heavy chemical products.

Furthermore, since the beginning of this year, with the agreement to annually import 40 tons of condensed uranium, a strategic good, for the next 10 years by the Korean Electric Cooperation, the relationship has developed almost to a level resembling that between countries with normal diplomatic ties as far as commodity trade is concerned.

In 1988, our exports to the Soviet Union consisted mainly of consumer goods such as textile goods, which accounted for more than half of the exports. But last year, the export items became diversified to include machinery, electric and electronic products, and shipbuilding orders.

Especially in the area of shipbuilding, the relationship has been active as seen in the signing of the contract by the end of last year for the rapairs of 40 ships along with the contract for building 12 new ships for the Soviet Union (worth $510 million).

The import items consist primarily of such raw materials as nickel, pig iron, coal, pulp, raw cotton, marine products, and fertilizers.

Along with such an expansion of commodity trade, the large industries in the country have recently shown an active interest in making direct investments for on-the-field joint venture projects and resource development projects such as forest coal mining by moving away from the export-import oriented simple trading stage. In response to the active requests made by the Soviet Union following the Seoul Olympics, our industries have been competing in seeking ways to make inroads into the Soviet Union. So far, we have been very slow in making any headway. The one exception was the opening of a fur coat outlet in Moscow by the Chindo Company.

Such a situation was caused not only by the absence of an agreement for protecting investments, which is essential prior to making a direct investment, and a protection from dual taxation but also by the uncertainty of business success in the Soviet Union due to the poor conditions for locating plants in the Soviet Union.

But, since the beginning of this year, as the minimum basic framework necessary for economic cooperation has been created by the establishment of consular offices, and an investment protection agreement is expected to be signed, our industries have been working hard to bring their interest in joint venture projects into reality by moving out of the stage of weighing the business prospects.

The Hyundai Group has been most active in seeking an opportunity to make inroads into the Soviet Union, as was demonstrated by the two trips made by its honorary board chairman Chong Chu-yong, and it is the first domestic firm to open its Moscow office. It plans to firm up its investment strategy in the Soviet Union before the end of this year.

The projects that Hyundai Group is undertaking include development of the forests of Svetlaya and the Pertizansk mines (jointly with Taesong Mine Corporation), and building a soap factory and a trade center in Nahodka area. Agreements on these projects with the Soviet Union have already been signed and the procedure for implementing these agreements is all that remains to be done.

The Hyundai Group has also decided to participate in the construction of a petro-chemical complex in Tobolsk which is already underway through the joint effort of the Soviet Union and Combustion Engineering Co. of the United States. It is also seeking to participate in a natural gas development project in the Yakutsuk region.

Samsung Group has also recently signed contracts with the Soviet Union for the construction of an electronic parts production plant and a light industrial goods production plant along with an agreement for the export of CATV technology. It is also seeking to promote four or five projects including the construction of a sports-hotel complex in Nahodka and a joint fishing project.

Jointly with Bechtel Groups of the United States, Lucky-Gold Star Group has signed a contract to participate in the development of Leningrad. It is studying the feasibility of participating in a resource development project in the Far Eastern region along with the construction of a plant for the manufacture of refrigerators and electric home appliances.

Also, in cooperation with Hagg Co. of the United States, Daewoo Group is to set up an electronic range manufacturing plant in Riga, Latvian Republic. Thus, our industries are currently involved in some 40 to 50 projects. Along with these projects, an agreement to open a direct air route has been reached between the Korean Air Lines and the Soviet Aeroflot, and a direct sea route between the two countries is also expected to open soon. In this way, the conditions incidental to the expansion of bilateral trade have been created.

At the same time, an institutional foundation for direct trading has been laid by agreeing to the exchange transactions between Korean commercial banks, led by the Korean Foreign Exchange Bank, and the Soviet banks, and making the direct approval of loans possible. The Agricultural Cooperatives Association has also decided to join the ranks of the organizations making inroads into the Soviet Union. It recently signed a mutual cooperation agreement with the Central Committee of the Soviet Consumers Cooperative Association for mutual exchange of sight-seeing and trade.

* Kim Yong-sam, Pak Chol-on 'Conflict' Grows

902C0181A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 25 Mar 90 pp 16-19

[Article by reporter Yi Chin-kwang: "The Kim Yong-sam Group Gets Angry at Pak Chol-on's Playing Cock-of-the-Walk; Strife for Power Surfaces in Connection With the Soviet Visit"]

[Text]

Pak Chol-on Group Holds Unity Gathering at Garden Hotel in Seoul, Openly Declares Intent To Launch Organizational Activity

Complaints are being voiced here and there inside the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] about the way "the Pak Chol-on division," the largest group within the DLP, is leaving the rest far behind. At present, these complaints are nothing more than individual voices, and they are not yet the voices of an organized group large enough to confront this faction collectively.

Since the three-party merger, the Pak Chol-on group has augmented its strength with its star in the ascendant. It is expanding its scale from the "divisional level" to a "corps level" with the connivance or hidden support of President No Tae-u. But for the support of President No, it would have been impossible for the group to expand its influence. For this reason, some say that it would be more correct to call this group "royal guards to President No" than call it "the Pak Chol-on group."

The expansion of the Pak Chol-on group is drawing attention all the more because "Wolgesu-hoe," a private organization, has of late openly swung into action. The group held a unity gathering at the Garden Hotel in Seoul at which it declared its intention to launch open activities. It was a unity meeting of "the Western Culture Research Society." (Cho Chong-min, chairman of the Life conglomerate, is its chairman.) This society is one of the organizations belonging to Wolgesu-hoe in the Seoul area. The gathering amounted to a formal declaration by the Pak Chol-on group of its intent to engage in factional activities.

At this gathering Assemblyman Yi Chae-hwang, chairman of Wolgesu-hoe, declared that "no longer do we have to hide." He said: "Up to now we have been unable to come out in the open fully. But, now that we can no longer conceal our identity, we should arm ourselves so that we can set up our goals and ideals, and by enlisting new members, we should develop our society into a national organization which is on a higher plane than any existing political organization and which will watch and support those who lead the country."

As the Pak Chol-on group accelerates its move to leave the rest far behind, with the declaration of Wolgesu-hoe to go open, the strife and friction between the Kim Yong-sam group and Pak Chol-on groups are increasing. At the same time, voices of criticism against Minister of State Pak Chol-on, which had subsided for a while, are again rising gradually.

Open criticism of the Pak Chol-won group's move to expand its influence has burst from among young turks as well as key assemblymen belonging to the Kim Yong-sam group. On 6 March, nine assemblymen of the Kim Yong-sam group gathered at the VIP dining room in the National Assembly building to discuss the lack of determination on the part of the DLP to carry out reforms. Reportedly, the meeting quite naturally criticized the tendency of First Minister of State Pak Chol-on to leave the rest far behind. The nine assemblymen were: Pak Kwan-yong, Mun Chong-su, Kang Sam-chae, Chong Chong-hun, Yi In-chae, Choe Ki-son, Cho Man-hu, Paek Nam-chi, and Kim Un-hwan.

Buried in the complex and delicate situation inside the DLP surrounding the selection of executive members of the party, the move of these assemblymen did not draw much attention. However, it is worthy of attention because it was an open criticism within the DLP against the Pak Chol-on group's moves to expand its influence.

At the meeting of the 15-man committee for the promotion of a merger, which was held on the day following the open criticism of Minister of State Pak Chol-on by assemblymen belonging to the Kim Yong-sam group, the Pak Chol-on group mounted a counterattack. During this meeting, which was not attended by Pak Chol-on himself, Assemblyman Chong Tong-song—who had shifted his factional allegiance from the Yi Han-tong group to the Pak Chol-on group—led the attack criticizing the remarks made by the assemblymen belonging to the Kim Yong-sam group the day before.

This war of nerves between the two sides is regarded as a kind of power struggle between the Pak Chol-on and Kim Yong-sam groups. The war of nerves has also developed over Minister of State Pak Chol-on's coming visit to the Soviet Union with supreme council member Kim Yong-sam. The two sides were at odds over Pak's capacity with regard to his Soviet visit, whether he will visit "as a member of the suite" or "traveling together" with Kim Yong-sam in a separate capacity. It is the general interpretation among political circles that the Pak Chol-on side's preference for the expression "traveling together" is meant as an intentional challenge to supreme council member Kim Yong-sam. This preference, according to political observers, stems from the calculation on the part of the Pak Chol-on group that it cannot tamely allow supreme council member Kim, who is the foremost internal rival of President No and Minister of State Pak, to consolidate his influence.

Pak Upset at Heart by Kim's Reaping Fruit of Nordpolitik Ahead of Him

It seems to be an accurate observation that Pak Chol-on is upset by the prospect that Kim Yong-sam will reap the fruit of the Northern Policy, which is regarded as the greatest achievement of the Sixth Republic, and of which President No and Pak Chol-on boast as the fruit of their hard work. The Pak Chol-on side may have found it necessary to apply some brakes. In order to attribute the credit for the success of the Northern Policy to President No and Pak himself, it is necessary to downgrade the standing of Kim Yong-sam with regard to his Soviet visit and its significance. For this reason, Pak Chol-on's original plan was to participate only in the planning stage of Kim Yong-sam's Soviet visit.

On the contrary, Kim Yong-sam, for his part, formed the strategic judgment that the achievement of his forthcoming Soviet visit needs to be upgraded. When he visited the Soviet Union as RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] president before, he enhanced his reputation by holding surprise talks with North Korea's Ho Tam, chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland. With regard to his visit to the Soviet Union in his capacity as DLP supreme council member, it seems to be Kim Yong-sam's calculation that he would be able to enhance his standing by forcing Pak Chol-on, the official virtually in charge of Northern diplomacy, to accompany him. Moreover, it seems that Kim Yong-sam's "selfish motive" to take credit for the tangible achievement that will be made in normalizing ROK-USSR relations was at work.

"Kim Could Get Hurt," War of Nerves Over Soviet Visit Still Smoldering

For this purpose, it is a must for Kim Yong-sam to include Pak Chol-on in his delegation on a visit to the Soviet Union. It should be surmised that consideration was also given to the fact that the IMEMO (World Economy and International Affairs Research Institute), which invited DLP supreme council member Kim Yong-sam, is less important in political and diplomatic terms than the Soviet diplomatic channel through which Minister of State Pak Chol-on has been working as a contact point.

Pak Chol-on, who had planned to wind up negotiations for the tangible success in the normalization of ROK-USSR relations with his Soviet visit this coming May, was driven into an intolerable plight by Kim Yong-sam's request that Pak accompany him as a "member of his suite." Yet Pak Chol-on was not in a position to spurn supreme council member Kim's request outright.

Kim Yong-sam reportedly made a strong request to President No that Pak Chol-on be included in his delegation. As far as President No's position is concerned, he was well aware of the hidden intention of supreme council member Kim, but he could not categorically reject his request. Neither was there a plausible excuse to reject Kim's request for a favor in return for his active cooperation in realizing the three-party merger. The Kim Yong-sam side's "operation to drag in State Minister Pak" was successful for now.

As things turned out this way, the Pak Chol-on group came up with the argument about "traveling together." By using the general argument that a party representative cannot be an executor of foreign policy, the group insisted that secret diplomacy should be conducted at the government level, not at the party level. Thus Pak Chol-on came up with the doctrine of dichotomy, demanding that supreme council member Kim go as party representative and Pak himself as government representative. According to this logic, the Pak Chol-on side insisted that Pak would go to the Soviet Union not as a member of the suite, but will travel together with Kim in a separate capacity.

Supreme council member Kim Yong-sam and his aides were stirred greatly by the argument that Pak would travel together with Kim in a separate capacity, a logic based on the calculation that the fruit of the Northern Policy should not be allowed to fall into Kim's hands. Ostensibly, the war of nerves appeared to be fought over a protocol issue, but a conflict of interests described above underlay the war.

With the argument that Pak would travel together with Kim in a separate capacity, fears began to be voiced incessantly among the Kim Yong-sam group that even if Minister of State Pak accompanied Kim in his visit to the Soviet Union, Pak might make secret contacts with Soviet officials, dealing a blow to Kim.

Outwardly, the war of nerves seems to have subsided, but according to observers, it is still smoldering. At a merger promotion meeting on 5 March, Pak Chol-on declared that "I am not going to the Soviet Union for any secret negotiations, but as a member of the visiting delegation," thus giving the impression that he withdrew his argument about "traveling together" in a separate capacity. However, according to observers, chances are high that these two men will act separately in accordance with their own personal interests, like odd bedfellows, during their stay in the Soviet Union.

In anticipation of this possibility, the Kim Yong-sam side stole a march on Pak Chol-on by having Assemblyman Chong Che-mun, who was visiting the Soviet Union for advance consultation in connection with Kim's coming Soviet visit, inform the concerned Soviet officials that Pak Chol-on would accompany Kim as a member of his suite. However, according to a diplomatic expert, the nature of the visit by the two men will depend on the judgment of Soviet diplomatic authorities. He says that Minister of State Pak Chol-on and supreme council member Kim Yong-sam will be treated differently, depending on how these authorities read the future of politics in South Korea.

It seems to be a very important factor in predicting the future political topography in South Korea whether the Kim Yong-sam group will be able to apply brakes on the expansion of the Pak Chol-on group's influence by taking the initiative in ROK diplomacy toward the Soviet Union with the coming Soviet visit as a momentum, or Pak Chol-on will succeed in his attempt to leave Kim Yong-sam out in the cold.

This subtle strife between the Kim Yong-sam and Pak Chol-on groups gives rise to a cautious outlook for the possible formation of a "joint front against Pak Chol-on" with the Kim Yong-sam group as axis.

This outlook is based on the fact that with the three-party merger as a momentum, the Pak Chol-on group has repeatedly insisted that "new politics should be conducted by new figures," an utterance which seems to be directed at the old key DJP [Democratic Justice Party] assemblymen and the two Kims, who are both supreme council members.

Assemblyman Chong Tong-song, on the Pak Chol-on side, caused a stir when he declared that "those who held high positions in the past should now exercise self-restraint," a statement which was apparently directed at the old key DJP assemblymen, such as Kim Yun-hwan, Yi Han-tong, and Yi Chong-chan. According to the majority view of observers, behind this kind of statement there is an "ambition" of the Pak Chol-on group to build a new political force.

Some say that the Pak Chol-on group's efforts to expand its influence lack viability because such expansion is possible only with President No Tae-u's connivance or support. Accordingly, when President No's term enters its latter half, the group's rallying power and influence will clearly wane.

Nevertheless, the majority of observers are of the opinion that inasmuch as President No has the final say in nomination, the collapse of the Pak Chol-on group is inconceivable. According to them, as long as the Pak Chol-on group remains influential, there is the possibility that an anti-Pak Chol-on front will be formed quite naturally at some time in the future.

As things stand now, no group other than the Kim Yong-sam group can be the center for the anti-Pak Chol-on front. Possibly, those old key DJP assemblymen who have been kept at a distance by the Pak Chol-on group will join the front. Needless to say, it is possible that as an initial step, these senior assemblymen will form a "small anti-Pak Chol-on front" within the DJP faction. On 8 February, Assemblymen Kim Yun- hwan, Yi Han-tong, Yi Chong-chan, and Yi Chun-ku met with Acting DLP supreme council member Pak Tae-chun at the Lotte Hotel, and this meeting is regarded as an event which points to that possibility.

Chong's Possible Victory in Taegu By-Election, a Big Blow to Pak Chol-on Group

Another thing that needs to be taken into consideration is the attitude of that group in the Taegu-Kyongbuk (TK) force which is kept at a distance by the Pak Chol-on group. In the case of the several assemblymen among the so-called signature group who refused to "surrender" to the Pak Chol-on group, it is possible that they will lead the van in the formation of an anti-Pak Chol-on front in the worst case.

The attitude of Mr Chong Ho-yong is likely to have an impact. In the event he emerges victorious in the Taegu by-election, its impact on the Pak Chol-on group would be in a megaton class.

The Pak Chol-on group seems to be well aware of such contingencies. The coming out into the open of Wolgesuhoe and the efforts to expand factional influence seem to be countermeasures being taken in anticipation of such contingencies. The group's strategy is to secure viability while President No's influence and controlling power "remain strong."

Minister of State Pak Chol-on is assigning a large number of his group to key DLP posts by exercising a maximum influence in the selection process, and this is interpreted as a move in line with this strategy.

Reportedly, President No himself is playing a role behind the scenes in the efforts of the Pak Chol-on group to expand its influence. The president time and again asked Assemblyman Kim Yun-hwan to "help Minister Pak." On the other hand, it was belatedly reported that the president told Assemblymen Yi Chun-ku, Yi Han-tong, and others who are openly disgruntled with Pak's leaving the rest far behind that "Minister Pak's activities do not stem from any personal motive but are part of a long-term political vision," stressing that they should "cooperate with him because any opposition to his activities would only result in counter-productive confusion."

This signifies that a long-rage strategic move has been made in preparation for the post-No Tae-u period. If Pak's moves are in preparation for the post-No Tae-u period and for his own "future," then they are bound to come into conflict with the interests of the Kim Yong-sam group. It is certain that the two sides, which found their interests identical in the process of the three-party merger, will steadily move into a mechanism of conflict.

Nevertheless the strife and conflict between the two sides will not immediately develop into a hot war. According to observers, both sides will seek to expand their influence through the process of carefully balancing each other's interests.

In this process, moves on the part of the Kim Chong-pil group and other splinter groups, which are sandwiched between the Pak Chol-on and Kim Yong-sam groups, are worthy of attention.

The Kim Chong-pil group, although strongly displeased with the Pak Chol-on group's leaving the rest far behind, is discreet in its behavior, in view of its weak influence.

Assemblymen Yi Chong-chan and Yi Han-tong are taking a wait-and-see attitude, stopping at watching the moves of the Pak Chol-on group closely.

Outside the DLP, chances are high that the PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy] pwill mark Minister of State Pak as a target of attack. During the current extraordinary session of the National Assembly, PPD assemblymen concentrated their attack on him at the Administration Committee, and this attack is viewed as an expression of the will to hold Pak Chol-on's rapidly rising political star in check.

Burma

Foreign Journalists Receive Visas for Elections

Ten Arrive 24 May

BK2505075090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Authorities concerned have given visas to journalists from news agencies, television stations, and newspapers from various countries who wish to give a first-hand account of the multiparty democratic general elections to be held in Myanmar [Burma] on 27 May. Ten journalists from various news agencies, television stations, and newspapers arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] by air yesterday evening. The ten journalists who arrived last night were: four from American CBS Television, three from Tokyo Broadcasting Service [TBS], one from ASAHI SHIMBUN, one from YOMIURI, and one from Japan's KYODO. It has been learned that more foreign journalists will arrive this evening.

The journalists who arrived last night were welcomed at the airport and given necessary assistance by U Sein Win, KYODO correspondent and chairman of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar [FCCM]; U Hla Htwe, ANTARA correspondent and secretary of the FCCM; U Ne Win, ASAHI SHIMBUN correspondent; U Thitsa Hla Htwe, TBS correspondent; and U Khin Maung Myint liaison editor from MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY.

U Sein Win, chairman of the FCCM, briefed the foreign journalists on reporting on the multiparty democratic general elections in Myanmar and gave them copies of the Myanmar People's Assembly Elections Law and Rules and copies of the English-language WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, which carried an interview between U Aye Maung, secretary of the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections, and U Aung Myint from the television department.

It has been learned that the foreign journalists were sent to the hotels of their choice from the airport in a specially arranged cars.

KYODO Reports

OW2405161590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1538 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 24 KYODO—The Myanmar [Burma] Embassy issued visas to 22 foreign press reporters on Thursday to allow them to cover the general election to be held on Sunday. The admission of KYODO NEWS SERVICE and other foreign reporters, mainly based in Bangkok, is the first such move by the military government of Gen. [General] Saw Maung's since January 1989.

The Yangon [Rangoon] government claims it will conduct a "fair and free" election, although major opposition leaders, Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin U, both of the popular National League for Democracy (NLD) have been placed under house arrest and [are] being barred from running as candidates. Thousands of antigovernment citizens reportedly have been harassed, arrested or tortured. Dissident Myanmar nationals living abroad also have charged the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) with political oppression. They have declared the upcoming election "invalid" and urged a boycott of the polls.

Council Revokes Martial Law in 16 More Townships

BK2405142790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] issued Martial Law Order No. 11/90, dated 24 May 1990, the first day of the waxing moon of Nayon, 1352 Myanmar Era. The order reads:

1. In order to ensure effectiveness in the implementation of security, law and order, and regional peace and tranquillity, the State Law and Order Restoration Council issued Martial Law Order No. 1/89 granting the commander of the Central Military Command, previously the Northwest Military Command, the right to exercise administrative and judiciary martial law powers in the military regions under his supervision and command.

2. Presently, as the law and order and regional peace and tranquillity situation has improved in the areas in the jurisdiction of the restructured Northwest Military Command and the Central Military Command, Martial Law is hereby revoked in the following 16 townships effective the date of this order:

A. Northwest Military Command

1. Sagaing Township, Sagaing Division
2. Monywar Township, Sagaing Division
3. Chaung-u Township, Sagaing Division
4. Kale Township, Sagaing Division
5. Pakkoku Township, Magway [Magwe] Division

B. Central Military Command

1. Amarapura Township, Mandalay Division
2. Mogok Township, Mandalay Division
3. Meiktila Township, Mandalay Division
4. Thazi Township, Mandalay Division
5. Yamethin Township, Mandalay Division
6. Pyinmana Township, Mandalay Division
7. Tatkon Township, Mandalay Division
8. Lewe Township, Mandalay Division
9. Myingyan Township, Mandalay Division
10. Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Division
11. Magway Township, Magway Division

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Khin Nyunt, major general, secretary-1, State Law and Order Restoration Council

Army Forces People in Villages To Abandon Homes

BK2205032190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0241 GMT 22 May 90

[By Michael Adler]

[Text] Kron Kung, Thailand, May 22 (AFP)—Burmese soldiers are forcing people to abandon their homes in small villages in southeast Burma ahead of the country's first general elections in 30 years, refugees said here. The evacuations to city areas, carried out as anti-insurgency measures, also apparently eliminate potential voters for general elections May 27 since those in sectors classified as "insurgent" are not getting voting cards, the refugees said.

Those movements follow the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people from Rangoon and other large cities to country areas. Burmese authorities say they are resettling squatters to clean up towns and give them better lives but diplomats say neighborhoods targeted are those which support the main opposition party, the National League for Democracy (NLD). Generals seized power in Rangoon in September 1988 to end pro-democracy protests which had paralyzed a military-backed regime ruling since General Ne Win ended democratic rule in 1962.

In the country-to-city resettlements, people have been forced to move from nearby villages to the town of Ye, 250 kilometers (155 miles) southeast of Rangoon, said Nyan Than, 34, a saw mill worker who last Thursday reached the Kron Kung refugee camp after a six-day walk from Burma. Kron Kung is one of five sites in Thailand, 260 kms (161 miles) northwest of Bangkok, where 8,000 ethnic Mons fled after their rebel army headquarters fell in February to Burmese government troops. He gave the number of those moved as in the thousands. Burmese Government sources contacted in Rangoon had no immediate comment.

A Burmese military captain interviewed at the captured mon village of Three Pagodas Pass in Burma, some 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of Kron Kung, said he could not confirm the report. But the officer, who identified himself as Captain Aye, said it was part of Burmese Army tactics to clear villages suspected of being sympathetic to insurgents. "Instead of staying in a remote place they go and live in the town," he said.

Mr. Nyan Than said he had seen emptied villages on his way to the Thai border and named Palaw and Wabyine as two of them. Ye is 64 kilometers (40 miles) west of Thailand. Ye district, of which Ye town is the capital, is a focus of insurgent activity by Mon guerrillas. The Mons are one of a dozen tribal groups fighting for regional autonomy almost since Burma became independent in 1948.

Mr. Nyan Than said his village of Khawsai, where 4,000 people live, had not yet been evacuated but that if it had, he would not have been able to flee since once moved to larger towns villagers need permission to go out from them. He and other refugees said the villages evacuated were small sites of 100 houses or less where Burmese troops did not have outposts. People were ordered to go to other larger towns such as Ye, which has a population of over 10,000, and Lamaing, with a population of about 6,000. When the people go to Ye, "they have to make their houses by themselves. The government soldiers don't arrange for them to live," said Mr. Nyan Than. This echoed comments by diplomats about the city-to-country evacuations in which people were reportedly taken to empty fields and forced to fend for themselves after losing their homes.

Nai Htwin, 44, a farmer from Lamaing who reached Thailand Monday, said villagers would be shot if they refused to evacuate their towns. He said the object of the evacuations was to cut off support to the Mon forces and that houses were left standing in the villages.

The Mon refugee flow into Thailand is continuing, with hundreds coming a week. People cited the fear of being evacuated, being forced to become porters for the Burmese Army or lack of work as reasons for fleeing. Mi Myaing, a 25-year-old woman who described herself as a day laborer who cuts grass, said she had come to Kron Kung because she could not find a job in Burma. She said soldiers kept people from going out to their farms and that one third of the town of Lamaing had fled to Thailand.

In Tavoy, south of Ye, recent refugees did not report country-to-city evacuations but instead said certain villages had been told by authorities that they would not be eligible for the elections since they were insurgent areas. Nai Nyo, 70, of Kaw Prin Mue village, 90 kilometers (55 miles) from Tavoy, said "people who vote have received their tickets. But in Kawn Prin Mue we have not received any." He said soldiers came to the town at the beginning of the month and took goods from houses where they suspected villagers were sympathetic to the insurgents.

Students at Kron Kung from the pro-democarcy All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) said that 15 out of 82 villages in Ye district have been told they cannot vote. Chit Ko Ko, 24, a student from Rangoon now living on the border, said the government had told people: "if you stay in the village you look like a rebel so you cannot stay in the village and have us give you a (ballot) ticket."

PRC Vice Minister Holds Communications Talks

BK2405143190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Mr. Zhang Xuedong, vice minister of machine building and electronics industry, and a delegation from the People's Republic of China, in the company of Mr. Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar [Burma], paid a courtesy call on Lieutenant General Tin Tun, minister of transport and communications and labor and social welfare, at the Ministry of Transport and Communications at the ministerial offices at 1530 today.

At the meeting, Lt. Gen. Tin Tun held frank and cordial talks on communications sciences dealing with the mass media, telephone and telegraph links, fiber optics, and laser communications. Also present at the meeting were Dr. Tin Hlaing, director general of the Water Transport Department, and U Khin Maung Than, director general of the Land Transport Department.

Cambodia

Commentary on Prospects of Upcoming Tokyo Talks

BK2405132990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 May 90

[Station commentary: "The Fate of the Tokyo Talks"]

[Text] The definitive schedule of the Tokyo talks between Comrade Hun Sen and Samdech Sihanouk has already been disclosed. However, public opinion concerned about the Cambodian problem is still uncertain about the fate of the meeting.

This round of talks was initiated by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan during his recent visit to Tokyo and after the failure of the Jakarta Informal Meeting on Cambodia. To date, national and international opinion have wondered if the Tokyo talks will resolve the Cambodian problem. In normal circumstances, the failure or success of an issue depends on two factors: the host and the parties concerned. It is definite that there will be no problem with the host.

During his visit to Indonesia in early May, Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu discussed the issue in detail with Indonesian President Suharto. Kozo Izikawa, director general of Japan's Self-Defense Agency, told reporters in Bangkok that Japan would do its best to help settle the Cambodian conflict. That being the case, the fate of the Tokyo talks depends on the two parties that will stand face to face.

We can see that Samdech Sihanouk, the key figure at the talks, is still not realistic. From the very first, Sihanouk has refused to hold a one-to-one meeting while asking for quadripartite talks to allow the genocidal clique to veto every agreement reached as it did at the Paris international conference and the Jakarta informal meetings. On one occasion, Sihanouk agreed to join the meeting but later he refused on the pretext that he had given up his so-called political and military activities. Recently, Sihanouk said he would go to Tokyo to seek humanitarian aid and would not discuss the settlement of the Cambodian problem. Lately, he said in Bangkok that he will go and meet Comrade Chairman [Hun Sen] in Tokyo to discuss his return to Cambodia but not the Cambodian problem. By all accounts, Sihanouk's trip to Tokyo will be for nothing.

As for the State of Cambodia, it has reacted positively from the beginning. This is our unswerving position in the search for a peaceful solution to the Cambodian problem to end the Cambodian people's suffering as quickly as possible.

During his visit to the Kingdom of Thailand, Comrade Hun Sen said: The Tokyo meeting depends on the outcome of the preparatory talks in Bangkok between the representatives of both parties. The discussion between the two parties has thus far made some progress that would lead the Tokyo meeting toward success. The State of Cambodia's stance had also been reaffirmed by Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee, in his speech at the celebration of the 100th birthday anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi.

Presently, the ball is said to be in Samdech Sihanouk's court and the results of the competition depend on whether the Samdech will kick the ball or not. The Cambodian people wish to announce that if the 3-4 June Tokyo meeting fails, it will be not the fault of the State of Cambodia. Instead, it will be the responsibility of those who lack goodwill and those who are not realistic. Moreover, it is absolutely not the intention of the State of Cambodia's Government to continue the civil war in Cambodia. By all means, it is a maneuver conducted by the other side. History will punish those who are bent on protracting the suffering of the Cambodian people.

Eight Months Since SRV Troop Pullout Reviewed

BK2405142090 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1053 GMT 24 May 90

["Cambodia Eight Months After Vietnamese Volunteer Army's Pullout"—SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 24—The Cambodian people and army have undergone a dry-season fraught with difficulties and trials and achieved major military victories since the Vietnamese volunteer army's complete pullout last September.

It is widely known that, right after the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese army volunteers from Cambodia, the three Khmer reactionary factions frenziedly stepped up their military activities along the Cambodia-Thailand border in an attempt to alter the situation in Cambodia. They staged massive attacks from their Thailand-based sanctuaries and deployed their forces deep inside the country while whipping up a psychological war.

However, they met with firm riposte by the Cambodian people and their Armed Forces. As was reported, the people and local army of Banteay Meanchey Province, 340 km northwest of Phnom Penh, wiped out hundreds of enemy troops and captured many others in their fight against the landgrabbers.

On Feb. 23, 1990, the Cambodian People's Armed Forces recaptured the Svay Chek area, an important outpost grabbed by the Son Sannians and Sihanoukists.

In the flush of their victories, in the first days of April, the Cambodian army launched fierce attacks and regained Pang Roloem, Kukong Krau and Thmar Puok areas.

On the political front, in the light of the lenient policy of the State of Cambodia, thousands of misled people have returned to the nation's fold. The policy of five economic sectors and freedom of belief have exerted positive impact on the socioeconomic life.

Over recent months a series of peace initiatives and bustling diplomatic activities have been carried out by countries in the region and the world as a whole to find a peaceful solution to the Cambodian conflict. They included Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's proposal for a cease-fire, Soviet-American proposals for a temporary halt of aid to all Cambodian factions, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans' initiative, the Paris international conference on Cambodia, the Jakarta informal meetings, the meeting of five big countries at the United Nations, and the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting in Bangkok.

All these activities show that the process to resolve the Cambodian issue through dialogue is irreversible and that the Cambodian people and their Armed Forces are fully capable of defending their country by themselves.

The State of Cambodia's acceptance of a UN role in the settlement the Cambodian issue has been welcomed by the world public as a positive and goodwill move.

Radio Broadcasting Protocol Signed With SRV

BK2405154990 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1110 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 24 May (SPK)—A protocol on cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam in radio broadcasting for 1989-90 was signed in Phnom Penh last Tuesday [22 May] at the end of the visit to Cambodia by a Vietnamese radio delegation.

The protocol was signed by Van Seng-li, deputy director general of the Cambodian radio and television, and Mai Thuc Long, deputy director general of the Vietnamese radio.

Kim Yin, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee and director general of the Cambodian radio and television, was also present at the signing.

According to the document, the two sides will exchange artistic and musical programs and information on renovation and economic and cultural achievements, including important political events in each country.

The two countries will undertake mutual technical assistance and exchanges of visits by reporters, editors, and artistic groups.

The Vietnamese radio delegation left Phnom Penh on Wednesday [23 May] at the end of an eight-day visit to Cambodia. During its stay, it was received by Khoy Khunhuor, member of the KPRP Central Committee and first vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Propaganda and Education Commission. They also visited several of Cambodia's economic and cultural establishments.

KPNLF Spokesman Denies Party Breaking Away

BK2505013190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1020 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 24 (AFP)—Several non-communist Cambodian guerrilla commanders have formed a new political party in anticipation of elections after peace is restored in Cambodia, a spokesman announced here Thursday [24 May]. Spokesman Ok Serei Sopheak said Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) military commander General Sak Sutsakhan and other KPNLF front-line leaders had set up the "Liberal Democratic Party" (LDP) on May 20. But Mr. Sopheak said the guerrilla commanders were not breaking away from the KPNLF and still recognised former Premier Son Sann as KPNLF president, with the LDP "only being formed in anticipation of future elections in Cambodia."

The KPNLF, one of two non-communist factions allied to the powerful Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge in a fight to topple the Vietnam-installed government in Phnom Penh, has a long history a factional dissent. Gen. Sak, a former Armed Forces chief in the U.S.-backed Lon Nol government—which ousted Prince Norodom Sihanouk in 1970 and was defeated five years later by the Khmer Rouge—has repeatedly challenged Mr. Son Sann's authority.

On Wednesday, the KPNLF issued a statement saying that only Mr. Son Sann could represent the faction in the Cambodian peace process—a response to Gen. Sak's statement last week that no cease-fire agreement could work without the backing of his guerillas. Mr. Son Sann is believed to control about one third of the approximately 11,000 KPNLF guerrillas. His Wednesday statement stressed that Gen. Sak had been discharged last year from his position as the faction's commander-in-chief.

A cease-fire in Cambodia is expected to be announced early next month during meetings in Tokyo. It is to be signed by Prince Sihanouk, whose followers form the other non-communist group in the guerrilla alliance, and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, and initialed by Mr. Son Sann and Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan. But the prince has already predicted that the cease-fire would not result in a cessation of hostilities but lead to intensification of the fighting. Vietnam, which invaded Cambodia over 11 years ago to overthrow the Khmer Rouge, announced a total military withdrawal from the country in September last year. But the guerrillas charge that thousands of Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia. Mr. Sopheak said a cease-fire could be effectively implemented only if it resulted in a real pull-out of Vietnam's troops.

Indonesia

Minister Refutes U.S. Daily on Anticommunist Aid

BK2505054590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0443 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 25 (AFP)—A senior Indonesian cabinet minister has called "absurd", a recent U.S. newspaper's report alleging American help in Jakarta's anti-communists drive in the mid-60's, the INDONESIA TIMES daily said Friday [25 May]. "Do not pay any attention to such absurd reports," the TIMES quoted Political and Security Affairs Coordinating Minister Sudomo as telling journalists Wednesday in reference to a recent report in the WASHINGTON POST.

The WASHINGTON POST last week published a story quoting former U.S. diplomats and officials as saying that Washington had supplied Jakarta with an extensive lists of members of the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) to help it eradicate the party in the latter half of the 1960s.

"Why on earth have we to ask or be given a list of members of PKI, a political party in Indonesia. It is common knowledge and logical that we certainly had sufficient information and data about the Communist Party and communist members," Mr. Sudomo said.

Jakarta maintains that the PKI, then Asia's second largest after China, was behind an abortive coup in 1965 in which six generals and an officer were killed. President Suharto, then a major-general, rallied the Army to put down the coup attempt, whose immediate aftermath saw up to 500,000 people killed across the country. The PKI's 1.5 million members were rounded up but most had been released by the late 1970s. The party, which looked to China for inspiration and support, was banned in 1966. Indonesia froze relations with China in 1967 after accusing Beijing of complicity in the coup attempt.

Mr. Sudomo said that the Indonesian people had already put down a communist rebellion in 1948 without the help of any foreign power and had also entirely depended on its own strength to quash the 1965 coup attempt.

Kartasasmita, UAE's Al 'Utaybah Issue Statement

BK2305105090 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1004 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 23 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have appealed to other non-OPEC oil producers to support OPEC's efforts in stabilizing and strengthening the international oil market by voluntary production restraints.

In a joint statement issued at the end of discussions lasting from Saturday [19 May] in Bali through Wednesday [23 May] in Jakarta between Indonesian Minister of Mines and Energy Ginanjar Kartasasmita and visiting UAE Oil Minister Dr. Mani' Bin-Sa'id al 'Utaybah here, the two ministers believed that such an action by other non-OPEC producers is in their own interest.

The two ministers further agreed to continue further bilateral discussions to strengthen the cooperation between the UAE and Indonesia, especially in the oil sector within and without OPEC.

According to the joint statement, the two ministers observed with great satisfaction the strengthening in oil prices as a result of the implementation of OPEC's decision to reduce its production by 1.445 million barrels per day. This concerted action proves OPEC's solidarity in reaching its common goals, it added. The two ministers also reaffirmed their countries' commitment to stabilize and strengthen the international oil market, the statement said.

Meanwhile, in a press conference the UAE minister expressed his confidence that other OPEC member countries would follow his country's lead in abiding by the organization's production quota. He said that without a concrete action by its members, it will be difficult to maintain the stability of the world oil price.

On that occasion Minister al 'Utaybah highly praised Minister Ginanjar for acting as a mediator in a recent OPEC meeting in Geneva and for initiating the cut in oil production level of OPEC members. Indonesia during the Geneva meeting expressed its readiness to cut its oil production from 1.285 million barrels per day to 1.245 million barrels per day. A similar step was taken by the UAE by reducing its production level by 200,000 barrels from 2.1 million barrels per day to 1.9 million barrels per day.

Answering a question on whether the UAE would in the next month's OPEC conference propose a change of the OPEC's benchmark price, considering that the current U.S. $18 benchmark price has lasted for five years, al 'Utaybah said that he would not do so as long as the current price level is still below the OPEC benchmark price. Actually, he went [words indistinct] the future.

In the meantime, Minister Ginanjar said that he and his UAE counterpart also talked about the possible purchase of oil by Indonesia from the Middle East country. According to Ginanjar, Indonesia currently imports about 85,000 barrels of crude oil from Middle East countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Iraq. The oil purchase from Iran and Iraq is based on counterpurchase agreements with the two countries, he added. Ginanjar also said that the oil import from Oman is closely related to Indonesia's plan to sell more Minas [Sumatera light green] oil abroad. "Indonesia has a plan to sell an additional 100,000 barrels of Minas oil per day, therefore Indonesia has to import oil from other countries as a substitute," Ginandjar insisted.

The UAE minister is in Indonesia accompanying the current visit of UAE President Zayid Bin-Sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan.

Laos

Further on Cambodian Military Delegation Visit

Meeting With Sisavat Keobounphan

BK2405095590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] On the evening of 22 May, Comrade General Sisavat Keobounphan, member of the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, secretary of the party committee and chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane municipality, received in Vientiane a delegation of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces General Political Department. The delegation is led by Comrade Gen. Bou Thang, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chief of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, which is currently on a visit to Laos. Accompanying the delegation in paying a call on Comrade Gen. Sisavat Keobounphan on this occasion were Comrade Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva, member of the LPRP Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the Army General Political Department, and Comrade Thonglai Kommasit, member of the LPRP Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Army General Political Department.

In the conversation, Comrade Gen. Sisavat Keobounphan and Comrade Gen. Bou Thang informed each other of the new situations arising in their respective countries. Comrade Gen. Sisavat Keobounphan also informed the patriotic Cambodian delegation of the achievements scored by the Army and people in construction and development as well as in activities that have been positively carried out to defend the country and maintain public security in Vientiane municipality. The two sides talked with each other in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding from the beginning to the end.

Later, at 1930 on the same day, Comrade Gen. Sisavat Keobounphan also held a banquet for the Cambodian delegation at the Mekong Restaurant. The banquet proceeded in an atmosphere of close friendship and joy.

Reception by Kaysone Phomvihan

BK2505052990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at the government guest hall in Vientiane yesterday afternoon a courtesy call from General Bou Thang, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chief of General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF]. Gen. Bou Thang is currently leading a delegation of the General Political Department to pay a visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

The guest and host talked with each other amid an atmosphere of close fraternal friendship. On this occasion, General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan and Gen. Bou Thang exchanged views on relations between the LPDR and the State of Cambodia. The two sides discussed ways to settle the Cambodian problem. Gen. Bou Thang informed General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan of the victories scored by the revolutionary Cambodian combatants and people in their struggle in the past and present. He also informed the general secretary of the Cambodian Government's new initiatives on the political settlement of the problem as well as the national reconciliation policy adopted by the Cambodian Government.

On this occasion, General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan expressed welcome to the visit to Laos of the delegation of the General Political Department of the CPAF, which, he said, has contributed to the further strengthening and development of the friendship relations and special combat solidarity between the parties, states, armies, and peoples of Laos and Cambodia. He also reiterated the LPDR Government's consistent stand on the support for the Cambodian people's struggle and for the good intentions and efforts of the Government of the State of Cambodia to resolve the problem of disputes in Cambodia through political means and on the basis of justice.

CPSU Foreign Relations Delegation Visits

Meets With Phoun Sipaseut

BK2405131890 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 24 (KPL)—A meeting to exchange views on international and internal situation was held here yesterday between Phoun Sipaseut, Politburo [member] of the Lao PRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], head of the Party CC Foreign Relations Board, minister for foreign affairs of Laos, and V.L. Musatov, deputy-head of the CPSU Foreign Relations Board who is currently on a working visit here.

They both highly appeciated cooperation and assistance between the parties, states and party foreign relations boards of the two countries; they also voiced their conviction that these relations would be further strengthened.

Meets Phoumi Vongvichit

BK2505103990 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 25 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic

Republic], yesterday received V.L. Musatov, deputy-head of the CPSU Foreign Relations Board, who is here on a working visit.

The host and his guest, on the occasion, informed one another about processes of restructuring or perestroyka in Laos and the Soviet Union.

They both held firm convictions that the relations and cooperation between the parties, states and peoples of the two countries would be increasingly developed.

Phoumi Vongvichit Receives UNICEF Official

BK2505002990 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 24 (KPL)—Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the republic, [and] president of the National Commission for the International Year for the Child, on May 23 received Ms. Anne Sutherland, the new UNICEF representative in Laos.

The two personalities discussed the present problems and the need to pay attention to the child care and children education. They were in a view [as received] that not only mothers but schools and society at large should play a major role in this matter.

Kaysone Phomvihan Meets West Bengal Premier

BK2405121090 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 24 (KPL)—Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, last week met in Hanoi with Mr. Jyoti Basu, Politburo member of the Communist Party of India and premier of the State of West Bengal.

The two sides informed each other of the present situation and the economic development in their respective countries in a view to consolidating and expanding the relations between the two countries in the struggle for peace and economic cooperation.

Phoun Sipaseut Attends FRG Envoy's Reception

BK2505004590 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 24 (KPL)—Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Laos Mr. Helmut Arndt hosted at his residence last night a reception on the occasion of the 41st promulgation of the FRG's fundamental law.

Attending the reception, among the guests of honour, were Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, minister of foreign affairs and other senior Lao officials.

Diplomatic envoys and representatives of international organisations in Laos also attended the reception.

Japanese Aid Planned for Fire Brigade System

BK2505003590 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 24 (KPL)—A memorandum on improvement of fire brigade system in Vientiane was signed here yesterday between the head of Vientiane fire brigade service and the head of JICA's [Japanese Volunteer Organization for Development Program] technician team, reported the VIENTIANE MAI daily today.

The memorandum stipulates the improvement of technical standard, the documentation of bid, and the possibilities in the implementation of the work. Also mentioned in the memorandum is Japan's gratis aid, which involves the provision of 9 cars and a number of equipment used specifically for fire handlings.

The aid amounts to 250 million yen. The bidding for the project will be made in Tokyo in July this year, while the cars and equipment are expected to reach Laos in early 1991.

In addition, the Japanese Government as well as the JICA will send here Japenese experts to open a training course on fire service for Lao firemen.

French University Gives Aid to Dong Dok College

BK2305100290 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 23 (KPL)—The Rouen University of France decided this month to provide aid in upgrading French language skills for teachers at the Dong Dok Teachers' Training College.

The decision was made in a protocol signed here earlier between the two universities' representatives. The language training will be conducted through correspondent courses.

According to the protocol, the Rouen University will also give to this Lao university aid in technical and scientific equipment in addition to holding seminars at university and post graduate levels to Lao teachers there and exchanging educational information and documents.

KPL Reports Outlook for 1990 Rice Production

BK2305101090 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 23 (KPL)—Laos strives to achieve 1.8 million tonnes of paddy in 1990, an official of the cultivation department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry said recently.

Accoring to him, the monsoon rice crop is expected to yield 1,398,243 tonnes of paddy from 448,160 hectares of rice fields, the dry-season one to yield 53,779 tonnes from 14,660 hectares, and slash-and-burn practice to yield 347,978 tonnes from 231,900 hectares.

Last year, the country's rice output reached 1,404,103 tonnes. From this figure, it demonstrates that the domestic rice production did not meet the per capita consumption which subsequently needed foreign aid. Luang Prabang Province faced the most serious problem and had to import 44,543 tonnes of rice. Luang Prabang was followed by the provinces of Houa Phan, Xieng Khouang, Oudomsai, Vientiane Prefecture, Phong Saly, Sekong, Bokeo, and Luang Namtha. The rest could be self-sufficient in rice production and dispatch relief to their neighbours.

Laos has 16 administrative provinces in addition to Vientiane Prefecture.

Philippines

General Testifies About American "Agents"

HK2505041090 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 25 May 90 pp 1, 3

[By Fidel F. Asor Jr]

[Text] A visibly weak Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Alejandro Galido (ret.) yesterday told the Senate defense committee that another American, possibly an administration official, was reportedly involved in the coup attempt last December. Galido also affirmed his affidavit linking several people to the December coup, among whom was Mrs Imelda Marcos.

Testifying at his sickbed at Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, Galido, whose voice was a little slurred, said he was supposed to meet a certain Richard Bill Nelson along with Harold Maglio sometime in April 1989 at the Mandarin Hotel in Makati. However, only Maglio appeared at the scheduled meeting.

The committee, chaired by Senator Ernesto Maceda, is looking into the extent of involvement of Maglio in the coup based on a resolution filed by Senator Jose Lina Jr.

Galido was questioned by Maceda and Lina for less than 10 minutes because of his weak condition. He is suffering from cancer of the liver. Even before Maceda started his questionings, Galido pleaded he was physically and mentally incapable of recalling everything that was contained in his affidavit submitted to the Department of Justice.

Galido confirmed that Maglio introduced himself as a colonel and an agent of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). When asked if he believed Maglio, Galido said "at that time I guess he is knowledgeable and has connections." Galido said he believed him when he was told he knew Ambassador Nicholas Platt, whom Maglio actually referred to as "Nick." This belief was further strengthened when a friend of Maglio, whom he did not identify, tried to contact Platt by phone but failed.

When asked if he actually talked with the former First Lady over the phone, Galido said he could not recall. Galido could not also recall who his handler was, referring to the military officer to whom to report directly regarding intelligence matters. Galido has claimed in his affidavit he was a deep penetration again (DPA). [sentence as published]

Galido also confirmed having attended a party at the residence of Platt but this was a normal social gathering given by the ambassador. At this juncture, Maceda terminated the hearing because of the visible strain being caused to Galido by the questioning.

In a briefing afterwards, Maceda said the committee has a "gut feeling" that the U.S. government had foreknowledge of the December coup. If this gut feeling is true, then a coup in the near future "is not a distinct possibility," Maceda said. Maceda said the committee will try to verify the true identity of Nelson.

Also appearing before the hearing was retired Intelligence Service of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief Galileo Kintanar. Kintanar is at present a consultant of AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa. Kintanar informed the committee that Galido was indeed a DPA, directly reporting to him and De Villa.

Galido is scheduled to appear before the justice department on May 30 to perpetuate his sworn affidavit.

Manglapus Cites Points for New Ties With U.S.

HK2405125490 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1200 GMT 24 May 90

[Italicized portion in English]

[Text] Department of Public Works and Highways Secretary Fiorello Estuar was appointed chief of the operations team tasked to implement the bases conversion plan. Other members of the team are Cabinet Secretary Aniceto Sobrepena and Under Secretary Ernesto de Castro.

Meanwhile, President Aquino today met with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, Philippine bases panel chairman:

[Begin Recording] *The president and the members of her committee have decided that the new relationship with the U.S. must be premised on the following three points: First, it must be based on mutual respect and regard for each other's sovereign rights; second, it must be broader in scope covering a wider range of issues beyond security concerning military bases; third, that it must take into account the changing global environment.* [end recording]

Aquino Names Head of Bases Conversion Team

HK2505083390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 25 May 90 pp 1, 10

[By Gerry Lirio]

[Text] President Aquino yesterday showed her resolve to prepare for the eventual dismantling of the U.S. military bases by ordering Public Works Secretary Eiorello Estuar to carry out the plan for the alternative uses of the base-lands.

Ms. Aquino announced the new duties of Estuar during a meeting of the presidential committee on the bases. The meeting was called to prepare for the second round of talks on future RP[Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. relations, including the possible extension of the lease on the bases. The 1947 RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement expires on Sept. 16, 1991.

Estuar will head the special operations team to implement the conversion plan based on the recommendations of the Joint Executive-Legislative Bases Council headed by Jose Abueva, president of the University of the Philippines. The other members of the team are Public Works Undersecretary Ernesto de Castro and Cabinet Secretary Aniceto Sobrepena.

The blueprint drawn up by the council aims to convert six facilities, including Clark air base and the Subic naval base, for economic and commercial uses. It also proposes to use portions of Clark air base for the expansion of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and transform the rest of the area into the headquarters of the Philippine Air Force. Subic will be used as the headquarters of Philippine Navy, under the plan. The government has set aside an initial appropriation of P[pesos]5 million to carry out the conversion plan.

During the meeting, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said the second round of talks with U.S. negotiators scheduled for next month or July would take up "wider RP-U.S. relations" apart from discussing security matters and the future of the U.S. facilities.

He said the coming talks would be premised on three things: the need for mutual respect and regard for Philippine and U.S. sovereignty; the changing global environment; and issues other other than security and the military bases.

During the exploratory talks held earlier this month, the Philippine panel headed by Manglapus pressed the United States to make up for a $222.58-million shortfall in the level of assistance committed for this year. Without acknowledging the shortfall, U.S. negotiators agreed to look for ways to increase the level of assistance by supplying surplus military and medical equipment and food.

Philippine and U.S. negotiator later agreed to hold a second round of talks covering the whole range of relations between the two countries. But Manglapus has said no commitments were made to produce a treaty allowing Washington to maintain its facilities beyond 1991.

Motorcade Rally Supports Retention of Bases

HK2405125790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1200 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] About 2,000 Filipinos from Olongapo and Angeles City held a motorcade to Manila today in support of the retention of the U.S. facilities here. In their speeches, the Federation of Filipino Civilian Bases Employees stressed it is not yet time to remove the U.S. bases, as this would lead to an inevitable collapse of the country's economy.

Pro-bases Senator John Osmena, appearing before the protesters, said he is ready to support the extension of the U.S. military facilities if America pays. He said that the Senate should respect the people's wishes, adding that foreign investors' will no longer have confidence in the Philippines if the bases are removed.

Killers of U.S. Servicemen Identified

HK2505081390 Manila MBC DZRH in Tagalog 0600 GMT 25 May 90

[From the "Military News" program]

[Text] PC [Philippine Constabulary] Recom [Regional Command] 3 Commander Manuel Bruan has announced that the brains behind the recent murder of the two American servicemen in Mabalacat, Pampanga are now known. General Bruan said the captured leader of the group that killed John Raven and James Green is Alex Capitulo. During the investigations Capitulo identified his colleagues who killed the two U.S. Marines. General Bruan declared that the assassins will be arrested by the authorities during the next few days.

Meanwhile, General Bruan reported that residents and businessmen in Mabalacat have set up their own group as protection against actions by rebels and terrorists.

Aquino Briefed on Japanese Subministerial Talks

OW2305101090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Manila, May 23 KYODO—Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada on Wednesday paid a courtesy call on Philippine President Corazon Aquino to report to her the results of the third session of the annual Philippine-Japan subministerial meeting. Owada is here to represent Tokyo at the meeting, which reviews and assesses all phases of bilateral relations of the two countries.

Owada, a personal friend of the Aquinos, was accompanied to the Malacanang Presidential Palace for the 30-minute call by his counterpart, Foreign Undersecretary Manuel Yan. Owada, who taught at Harvard University, was frequently visited by the president's husband, slain opposition Sen. Benigno Aquino.

After the meeting, Owada told reporters that Japan has "no negative attitude" toward hosting the second pledging session of the Philippine aid plan slated late this year. Tokyo hosted the first session last June and pledged about 50 percent of the 3.5 billion dollars committed by donor countries in that meeting.

Japan is the Philippines' largest aid donor and lending country.

Islamic Envoys To Meet on Moro ICO Bid

HK2405064790 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 22 May 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Resident ambassadors of 20 member-states of the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC—ICO] will meet here May 28 to discuss possible support for the government in blocking the efforts of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] to gain membership in the OIC.

Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] sources said the pre-OIC consultation meeting with the 20 ambassadors was part of government efforts to gain support from member states of the pan-Islamic body in thwarting moves by the MNLF to gain full membership in the Islamic conference.

The Islamic Conference will hold its annual meeting in Cairo next month.

MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari met with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi early this month to seek support for its membership bid. The MNLF holds only an observer status in the 46-member Islamic conference.

Speculations

The Qadhdhafi-Misuari meeting raised speculations that the MNLF bid was gaining ground, the sources said. Qadhdhafi has openly expressed support for the MNLF's membership in the Islamic conference. DFA sources claimed, however, that the MNLF's chances of becoming an OIC member, although "slim," were "not totally nil."

Meanwhile, President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, an OIC member, is scheduled to arrive Saturday for a three-day "working visit."

Treaty with Senegal

The DFA hopes to draft a treaty of friendship with Senegal during Diouf's visit here from June 3-6. This is his first trip to the Philippines since he assumed power in January 1981. Senegal is the venue of next year's OIC meeting.

The source also disclosed that President Aquino has appealed to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in writing to "delete the MNLF question from the agenda." Mrs Aquino, who noted in her letter that the issue has been in the OIC agenda since 1972, made the same request to Mubarak when they met in Paris last July.

Pres. Aquino has directed the foreign office to "make intensive diplomatic representations" with key Islamic conference members, particularly members of the (influential) quadripartite committee. The committee is composed of Senegal, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Libya.

PC Chief Orders Manhunt for Colonel's Killers

HK2305080590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 23 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Text] Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police [PC-INP] chief Brigadier General Cesar Nazareno today denounced the murder of Colonel Reynaldo Dino, his daughter Lolita, and five others in an ambush in Kaloocan City, this morning. At the same time, Nazareno ordered a manhunt operation for the still unidentified armed killers believed to be members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB]. He also alerted the local police and the Capital Region Command Force in preparation for the ABB's anniversary tomorrow [24 May], who according to reports, may carry out widespread terroristic attacks on police and military personnel in Manila.

In a statement, PC-INP officials said the brutal murder of the colonel manifests the vain attempt of state enemies to weaken the Armed Forces and the INP in protecting the government's constitutional mandate. The killing of Colonel Dino can only be blamed on criminal groups who have failed in their objectives, they added. They counteracted the perpetrators' belief that this crime will weaken the Armed Forces, and strongly expressed the belief that apart from Dino's murder, the ABB was also connected in the recent bombings in Metro Manila.

In this regard, the PC chief ordered the deployment of constabulary and police forces in four districts to monitor operations which the communist rebels may still launch.

Colonel Dino was ambushed and killed by eight unidentified men armed with high-powered guns while driving his car, with plate No. PGG-130, by the corner of Epifanio de los Santos Avenue and E. De Jesus Street in Kaloocan this morning. Dino died while undergoing treatment at the Manila Central University hospital for bullet wounds on his body.

Further Reportage on Communist Brigade's Threat

Military Downplays Threat

HK2505041290 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 25 May 90 pp 1, 6

[By Manny Mogato and Noli Cabantug]

[Text] Communist insurgents warmed yesterday they would wage "sustained partisan warfare" in the metropolis and hoped to achieve final victory in a general insurrection in the next decade. The military, on the other hand, called it old propaganda, which could be disproved with facts. But it noted, at the same time, that the communists were now carrying out "indiscriminate killings," showing no regard for civilian lives.

The communist warning came in a two-page tract called "Ang Partisano' (The Partisan) and circulated among the media to commemorate the sixth year of the Alex

Boncayao Brigade, the Metro Manila unit of the New People's Army (NPA). It followed the ambush in Kalookan City Wednesday of the deputy personnel chief of staff of the constabulary, Col. [Colonel] Reynaldo Dino, without, however, claiming responsibility for it. Slain with Dino were a daughter, two bodyguards and a woman pedestrian. Elevan other people, all civilian commuters, were wounded.

"We are entering a crucial decade of our struggle in which we hope to achieve complete victory," the communist statement said. "We have set up the comprehensive partisan machinery that will ensure sustained partisan warfare in the national capital region." It urged cadres to organize workers, students and other metropolitan residents into "the backbone of insurrection which will be launched in the near future." This insurrection, it said, is the "ultimate direction of our struggle in the capital region for the actual grabbing of political power."

But the military dismissed the statement as meant really for the communist movement's own men, to boost their morale. "Look at the records, and you'll find out who is really winning," said Col. Juanito Rimando, armed forces spokesman, who proceeded to cite figures: the communist strength was down by 12

and their support from the countryside, their traditional source of material and moral support, by 10

. Rimando reported an "increasing number of rebels turning over their guns in exchange for a peaceful life." He also pointed out the arrest of several communist leaders, including members of the movement's ruling central committee, saying it surely must have seriously set back the communist timetable.

Going back to the communist statement, Rimando said, "They have been saying that (since) a long time ago. Nothing is new there. It's their official propaganda line." In all the 20 years that the communists have been trying, he said, they have "not succeeded in gaining the upperhand." Neither would their new strategy of bringing their war to Manila succeed, he said. He called it "counterproductive." This, he added, "might trigger a negative response among the people, similar to what happened in Davao City a few years back, when the people organized themselves to fight Sparrow (urban guerrilla) attacks."

He admitted being diverted somehow from the insurgency by the rightist coup attempt in December and its effects. But, he said, "we're back on track. Whatever losses we suffered in a few tactical engagements we can recover in due time to complete the destruction of the remaining guerrilla fronts to achieve our goal of strategic victory before the end of President Aquino's term in 1992."

Just the same, the military is not taking any changes, especially with the Alex Boncayao assassins. Yesterday, Brig. Gen. Gerardo Flores, chief of staff of the Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police, issued a list of precautionary measures to military men and police officers. The basic ones are changing vehicles and plate numbers from time to time and varying their routes and schedules.

He admitted a feeling of helplessness over the misfortune of civilians caught in the line of fire of "these indiscriminate killers."

Extra Patrols Ordered in Manila

HK2505041690 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 25 May 90 pp 1, 10

[Text] Round-the-clock police patrols in Metro Manila were ordered yesterday as communist urban guerillas warned that they would launch a "sustained partisan warfare" in the city leading to a general insurrection during the next decade.

Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Marino Filart, chief of the Constabulary's Capital Regional Command [Capcom], ordered the police patrols in the wake of bombings and ambushes which rocked Metro Manila recently. Filart also asked the Manila police to explain why they failed to stop a lighting rally staged by members of the communist Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB] on the eve of the urban guerilla unit's anniversary yesterday.

Filart said he had revived "Operation Laging Handa [Ever-Ready]," Capcom's counter-offensive plan and beefed it up with more operatives to help in the hunt for the killers of Col. Reynaldo Dino. The military officer was killed along with four others Wednesday in a daring ambush near the Bonifacio monument, Kalookan City. Also killed in the ambush were his youngest daughter, Mrs Lolita Jalili, security aides Sgt. [Sergeant] Mariano Esteban and Pat. [Patrolman] Nelson Deleniana, and a still unidentified woman bystanders.

A few hours after the ambush, some 50 members and supporters of the ABB staged a lighting rally in Sta. Cruz on the eve of the unit's sixth anniversary. The ABB, which operates in Metro Manila, warned yesterday of increased urban guerilla warfare in a statement to news agencies on the sixth anniversary of the guerilla unit and one day after the ambush of Dino, which was blamed on communist rebels. "We are entering a crucial decade of our struggle in which we hope to achieve complete victory," the rebels said. "We have set up the comprehensive partisan machinery that will ensure sustained partisan warfare in the national capital region."

The statement said rebels had been able to launch raids and ambushes in the capital area and had assassinated "despotic enemies" in the police and military. The military blames rebels for the killings of 60 soldiers, police and civilians in Manila this year. But the statement made no mention of Wednesday's Kalookan ambush on Dino.

Dino, deputy personnel chief of staff of the Constabulary, was set to be promoted to brigadier general next week. Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said that Dino's assassination may have been carried out by guerillas as part of a "summer offensive" against the government.

However, Filart and police investigators said other groups, including rebel soldiers or crime syndicates, might have have staged the ambush. Filart ordered Col. Romeo San Diego, chief the Northern Police District, to investigate the ambush.

A series of bombings has rocked Metro Manila in recent weeks. Two time bombs made from 47 dynamite sticks and reinforced with military-type explosives were found at the Security Bank and Philbanking buildings in Makati last Tuesday. Last Friday, unidentified men fired two grenades at the U.S.-run Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center in Makati. One of them exploded causing minor damage but no injuries. Also last Friday, a grenade was fired at a police station in Makati but it did not explode. Three weeks ago, another grenade rocked the Security Bank building in Makati but caused no injuries. Yesterday, the Cubao police substation reported that an anonymous caller had threatened to bomb the Act Theater. The Kalookan police also placed its forces on red alert following anonymous phone calls threatening to blow up the headquarters and liquidate officers if they continue to investigate the Dino ambush.

Filart ordered Capt. [Captain] Levi Viesca, commander of station 3 of the Western Police District, to explain why he and his men defied an order from the higher command to arrest outlaws conducting rallies. Filart said he had issued a directive five days ago to all police superintendents and station commanders of Metro Manila police to arrest demonstrators who will incite people to commit rebellion.

Investigations, meanwhile, said they are also looking into the possible involvement of criminal syndicates, rebel soldiers and disgruntled members of police and military in the Dino ambush. Investigators said during Dino's stint as North sector commander, he ran after the notorious Tir-tir [transtation not known] gang which was sowing terror in Kalookan, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela. Police said that while the ABB remains a principal suspect, they said the mode of killing was not a typical ABB hit.

Aquino Congratulates Department of Agriculture

HK2205054290 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0245 GMT 22 May 90

[Speech by President Corazon Aquino on the occasion of the Department of Agriculture's 73d anniversary, held at the Heroes Hall, Malacanang Palace; live, in English—italicized portions in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] Secretary Senen Bacani, Mr. Joe Bisunia, Under Secretary Apolonio Bautista, Under Secretary Dante Barbosa, the 1988, 1990 Agricultural Achievement awardees, Your Excellencies of the diplomatic corps, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Seven decades constitutes a lifetime. That the Department of Agriculture is turning 73 is, thus, very significant. Within this period, it has seen the best and the worst of times, and has been witness to national and global advances and upheavals to which it often needed to react.

To remain unchanged but relevant in the midst of these challenges, the department had to demonstrate its resiliency, durability, and responsiveness. It has thus survived and still constantly grows with the experiences it has accumulated over the years. These experiences are recalled as we once more measure the agricultural sector's performance on the occasion of the department's anniversary.

I am glad to note that on the whole, the Department of Agriculture has once more shown its relevance, even in the face of adversity. The value of agricultural production grew by 4.7 percent in real terms in 1989. This is the highest agricultural growth since 1982. [applause] Also, livestock production went up by by 10.4 percent, while poultry output expanded by 9.6 percent. Crops posted an increase of 2.9 percent, while fisheries increased by 4.4 percent. Growth was clearly the message of the total agricultural production of 188.8 billion pesos for the year. My congratulations then to the Department of Agriculture, which has been the main instrument of this growth; to Secretary Senen Bacani and his predecessor Carlos Dominguez; [applause] to the technocrats and clerks; to the farm technicians, the pencil pushers, and all the other workers of the department. Now is the country's time to thank you all. [passage omitted]

Much as we find comfort in the successes of the past year, in the percentages that spell a growth and the individual record of crop harvest that exceeded the previous years, we must sadly admit that the agriculture sector's numerical growth has been dimmed by temporary setbacks.

Raw rice harvests, though higher than those of some past years, need to be increased to meet the growing needs of a burgeoning population. Our produce has been greatly affected by typhoons that lashed our so-called rice bowls last year, and we are now reeling from the drought that has hit the greater part of the country. We still need to do a lot more together to meet our goal to be self-sufficient in food. However, we regard these problems as temporary adversities, from which the Filipino people can rise as a better, stronger people just as we have risen to challenges at different times in our past.

The long experience of the Department of Agriculture will serve us in good stead in meeting our goal. With this, plus strong determination and concerted efforts of our farmers, fishermen, and other agricultural workers, we shall win this war against hunger and poverty.

To win this war, we'll look to the army of more farmers and fishermen who comprise almost half of our total labor force to lead the fight. But we can not leave them to fight this war only with determination and enthusiasm. We need to equip our farmers and fishermen with new tools, better skills, and broader perspectives so that they may realize this goal of self-sufficiency for the country. And government is moving to enable our small farmers to produce more.

The Department of Agriculture's long record of service has come to the fore again as we pursue a balanced agro-industrial developmental program for the country. For while we set our sights on the ranks of newly industrialized countries of the region, we can not premise our direction solely on the development of our industries. We are an agricultural country, and will not take the road to industrialization at the expense of the agricultural sector. Rather we will focus on improving agricultural productivity while simultaneously attending to the demands of industrial development.

Agriculture and industry need each other. Any dichotomy, attempt to place one ahead of the other, will ultimately prove counterproductive, as these two vital sectors of our economy mutually reinforce each other. [passage omitted]

I ask our farmers and fishermen to realize how valuable they are in the continued survival of the nation. Let each one be aware of the importance of the task he performs for his fellow men, and let him not be distracted from this task. False ideologies tamper with our national goal to be self-sufficient in food. I ask our farmers and fishermen to keep to their fields, inspired by the mission to produce more food for our people and not by the rhetoric of those who mislead and confuse them.

Once more, my warm congratulations to the winners of this year's annual search, and I hope that they will continue to surpass their records of production. *Accept the nation's and the president's heartfelt gratitude. I congratulate you all. Good morning and many thanks.*

Muslim Official Confirms RAM-MNLF Link

HK2405105190 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1000 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Bangsa Moro [Moro Homeland] Islamic Foreign chairman Datu Firdausi Abbas today confirmed the existence of a tie up between the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] and the Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM]. Arnie Soriano reports on this:

[Begin recording] This developed as Abbas continuously opposes the government's move to send a delegate to the forthcoming meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization in June 1990. To support his allegation, Abbas said the MNLF is recruiting intensively in order for them to project a strong image before the ICO. Abbas also said the Philippines will only waste government funds if it will insist on sending the said delegate. Abbas further belied reports that there a is tie up between the RAM and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the MNLF reformist group. Abbas has just asked the ICO to consider their request for representation in the organization. The Bangsa Moro Islamic Party insisted that MNLF head Nur Misuari should not be considered the sole representative of the Bangsa Moro. [end recording]

Rebel Soldiers Enlist Mindanao Tribesmen

HK2405050990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 24 May 90 pp 1, 7

[By staffmember Carol Arguillas]

[Excerpt] Davao City—Rebel soldiers in Mindanao are recruiting tribesmen to their cause by using the deception that they are joining the Citizens Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU), the military said yesterday.

About 2,000 members of the Manobo, Higaonon and Matigsalog tribes which live along the shared borders of Davao del Norte, Bukidnon and Agusan have already joined the rebel forces, according to Regional Director Roque Agton of the Office of Southern Cultural Communities (OSCC). The recruits get a monthly pay of P[pesos]1,800 and free food, Agton said.

Recom [Regional Command] Chief Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Mariano Baccay yesterday warned the city's tribal leaders against falling for the renegade soldiers' ruse. *"Hindi nila agad sasabihin sa inyo na ganito ang pakay nila, na ilalaban kayo sa gobyerno,"* [They will not immediately tell you their purpose, i.e. to make you go against the government] he told them.

Baccay said the Rightist elements, who are followers of Army Col. [Colonel] Alexander Noble, former chief of staff of the Presidential Security Group, would approach a tribal community and pretend to train CAFGUS there. "Like what happened to a number of soldiers in Luzon during the December coup, you will not know what their purpose is until it is too late," Baccay said. He advised the tribal leaders to inform Metrodiscom [Metropolitan District Command] chief Lt. Col. Franco Calida or himself if CAFGUS are being recruited in their areas to find out who are doing the recruitment.

Agton said his office had been advised by OFPC [expansion unknown] chief Jose Lopez and Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos to talk with the tribal groups.

A meeting of tribal leaders in Davao del Norte would be held on June 15, Agton said. [passage omitted]

Military Rebels Give Businessman Death Sentence

HK2505092990 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 May 90

[By Jonathan Cristobal]

[Text] The rebel RAM-SFP's [Reform the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Soldiers of the Filipino People] kangaroo court has sentenced to death Domingo Lee, owner of the Philippine Banking Corporation and chairman of the Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, because he is close to the Cojuangco's and is one of the foremost financiers leading to the arrest of military rebels.

In a two-page document distributed to members of the Defense Press Corps, the RAM-SFP's high commission on public crimes said it has directed all ultra-rightist rebel alliance forces to immediately arrest and kill Lee. The order is signed by a certain Captain Emilio Maglaya, chairman of the commission. The directive also includes the seizure of all his businesses and possessesions, as well as punishment to all individuals and companies linked to him unless they suspend ties with Lee.

The RAM-SFP also warned the Philippine Banking Corporation depositors to transfer their money to other banks which have no links to Lee. The document claims he is the yellow army's top financier; the partner and adviser of the criminal syndicate involved in the sale and distribution of imported rice, sugar, and soya beans; and one who controls the secret payroll of corrupt officials of the military and civilian government.

Court Approves Move of NPA Leaders Trial

HK2405104990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] The Supreme Court today granted a government petition to transfer the trial of Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army leaders Satur Ocampo and Carolina Malay Ocampo from Mauban, Quezon to Quezon City.

In an en banc resolution, the high court acknowledged Solicitor General Frank Chavez' explanation that there is a great possibility for the two rebel leaders to escape should the trial be held in Quezon. Chavez filed the petition based on a request by the Judge Advocate General's Office, who expressed the fear that Ocampo and Malay may escape during the trip to Quezon from the Camp Crame detention center for their trial.

NPA Mass Graves Discovered in Bataan

HK2205032590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 May 90 pp 1, 19

[By Efren P. Molina]

[Text] Balanga, Bataan—Police have dug up in the past four days the skeletal remains of eight people allegedly killed by the New People's Army (NPA) in Abucay, Samal, and Hermosa, Bataan, the military said yesterday.

Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Ramsey L. Ocampo, Bataan PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] commander, said that more skeletal remains of NPA victims are expected to be exhumed by the police in the next few days. The police, he said, have already identified the other NPA killing fields in northern Bataan. Ocampo said tips given by rebel returnees led the police to the discovery of the graves in barangay Mambog in Hermosa; sitios Banlik and Torres in San Juan, Samal; sitio Parang in barangay Ibaba, Samal; and in the coastal village of Mabatang, Abucay.

1lt. [First Lieutenant] Edgardo G. Tinio, chief of Orani police station and Bataan PC Special Task Force commander, said in a report to Ocampo that the skeletal remains of a woman were among those dug up. The woman, according to him, was said to be an informer of the military. Tinio said that Aman Castro, alias Ka [Comrade] Edong, former member of NPA Section Committee 30, confirmed the killing of the woman by his comrades, Luisito de la Torre, alias Ka Hector, Arturo Tolentino, alias Ka Eric, and Francisco Honra, alias Ka David.

Foreign Investments 'Soar' in First Quarter

HK2405051190 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 24 May 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by researcher Purificacion D. Delfinado: "Foreign Investments Soar 62% in First Quarter of '90"]

[Text] Foreign investors brought in $47.875 million worth of capital to the country during the first quarter this year, an amount 62% or $18.407 million greater than the $29.468 million they pumped in during the same period last year, the Central Bank (CB) reported recently.

This shows that despite the December 1989 coup-triggered political instabilities and the debilitating power shortages, foreign financiers still consider the country a good place to invest in. In fact, industry observers point out that were it not for such problems, compounded as they are by such other concerns as poor infrastructure and telecommunications systems and the rising production costs, foreign financiers could have brought in more investment capital. The same observers say that if such problems remain unsolved over the next three months or so, foreign investors may not be as enthusiastic anymore about spreading their money locally.

According to the CB, direct foreign equity investments of the registered type, representing investment money actually remitted to the country during the first quarter, brought foreign capital infused into the local economy since 1970 to a cumulative total of $3.152 billion. This, the CB said, 7.5% more than the $2.931 billion cumulative total reached during the same period last year.

Approved foreign equity investments or those yet to arrive in Philippine shores, meanwhile, also grew by 48.45% in the first three months of the year, reaching $73.289 million from last year's $49.370 million.

Reckoned against approved foreign equity investments during the period, registered foreign equity investments from January to March this year reflected a high inflow actualization rate of 65%, a substantial 10 percentage points improvement over last year's 59%.

Among industries which absorbed foreign capital during the first quarter, it was the financial institutions which grabbed the biggest share, at 36%, of the total inflow for the period. In real terms, financial institutions got $17.234 million or a staggering 145% increase from the $7.020 million recorded during the same period last year. Some $12.741 million of the total direct inflow to financial institutions were channeled to banks. Nonbank financial intermediaries and insurance companies, meanwhile, got the remaining $4.493 million.

Another sector which grabbed a hefty share of foreign equity investments during the first quarter this year, was manufacturing, which received $15.685 million. The amount is $1.594 million more than the $14.091 million the sector received during the first three months of 1989. Under manufacturing, machineries got $4.348 million. Textiles and garments, another manufacturing subsector, received a substantial $2.876 million inflow for the period.

Mining trailed manufacturing when it took in direct foreign equity investments worth $10.157 million. The figure is 60.8% more than the $6.315 million which the sector got during the same period last year. The subsector which got the biggest share of mining's foreign capital intake was geothermals, at $6.275 million or 61.8% of the total for the sector.

The rest of the foreign investments were farmed out to such other sectors as commerce, which got $0.688 million; services, $3.035 million; public utility, $0.889 million; agriculture, fishery and forestry, $0.085 million; construction at $0.102 million.

The United States trailed the United Kingdom (UK) in contributing the biggest share to direct foreign investments in the Philippines. The UK pumped in $14.753 million or 30.8% of the total while the US injected only $12.729 million. Japan came in third, with $7.825 million.

Committee Foresees Two Million Job Shortfall

HK2405062790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 22 May 90 p 15

[Text] A job shortfall is foreseen by an inter-department committee on labor force and employment for the next two years. About 3,146,000 new jobs are needed in 1991 to absorb the unemployed sector which also includes new entrants to the labor force this year. However, the committee projects only about 1,031,000 new jobs to be created by different industries for the current year. The committee projections cover an eight-year period from 1990 to 1997 which took only demographic factors into consideration. Not included were economic considerations as well as overseas contract workers.

For 1990, about 3,062,000 jobs were projected for an estimated 850,000 total in new entrants to the labor force and about 2,212,000 unemployed recorded in 1989. The committee believes this projection may not be achieved since only about 845,000 new jobs will be created; thus, leaving a total of 2,217,000 people still without jobs.

Next year, the job deficit will be about 2,115,000, that is if the unemployment rate for the current year of 8.6% will be assumed. By 1992, the figure will be about 2,018,000, with the unemployment rate dipping slightly to only 8%, the committee added.

The Joint Committee on Employment Target-Setting is spear-headed by the Institute for Labour Studies Department of Labor and Employment (ILS-DOLE) and is composed of representatives from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Board of Investments (BOI), Department of Agriculture (DA), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), National Statistics Office (NSO) and the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES).

The committee, likewise, explained that by targeting a gradually decreasing unemployment rate, a job deficit of only 809,000 will be reached by 1997, the unemployment rate also down to only 3%. The rate of decrease is purposely done such that it accelerates toward the latter years of the period when the Philippines is close to reaching full employment and becoming a newly-industrialized country.

Other highlights of the committee report show that by sector, agriculture leads in the projected employment for the first five years, after which it will be overtaken by the service sector for the latter three years. Industry, meanwhile, has the least projected employment throughout the eight-year coverage of the committee projections. Southern Tagalog (Region IV) has the highest projected employment throughout the eight-year period, with the National Capital Region (NCR) and Central Luzon (Region III) following closely.

Correction to Manglapus Assures of Wider Scope

HK2405063590

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Manglapus Assures of New Treaty's Wider Scope," published in the 23 May Philippines section of the East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 51:

Column one, make sourceline to item read: ...Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT.... (changing "Far East" to "Manila")

Thailand

Editorial on Chatchai's Visit to United States

BK2105103290 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 18 May 90 p 13

[Editorial: "Do Not Invite Contempt"]

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan will leave for a visit to the United States on 11 June, a visit which he says will benefit the country. For this reason, he asks the opposition bloc to call the expected no-confidence motion quickly so that if the government survives the motion he can speak with authority with the U.S. leaders. He would not have to make the visit if the government should lose.

It is regrettable that the prime minister's wish will not be fulfilled because the opposition has decided to submit the motion for the no-confidence debate after he returns from the United States. The opposition also insists that the prime minister should not travel abroad during the annual parliament session which lasts only 3 months a year.

We sympathize with the prime minister about how things have turned out and wish him luck so that his meeting with the U.S. leaders will bring concrete benefits to the country.

A point which we hope Gen. Chatchai will keep in mind concerns a letter from a foreigner which was published in an English language paper. The letter says the purpose of the Thai leader's visit to the United States probably includes a request for financial and other forms of U.S. aid, adding that such a request for aid is hardly appropriate.

According to the writer, Thai political leaders and wealthy tycoons live luxurious lives, wearing watches that cost up to 1 million baht and paying tens of thousand baht for a meal. He says Gen. Chatchai himself has a huge home, owns several expensive cars, and often visits expensive and high-class entertainment places.

The foreigner insists that wealthy Thai individuals live better than their American counterparts and reasons that the countless number of entertainment places, first-class hotels, and massage and prostitution parlors do not classify Thailand as a poor country.

We agree with the foreign writer's letter. In the eyes of foreigners, Thailand is a heaven for the wealthy, and cabinet members do live in luxury—some having amassed a fortune that could stake ten future generations of their families to the easy life. With this condition in Thailand, it is inappropriate to beg for financial assistance from George Bush.

For decades, the United States viewed Thailand as its lackey. The world has changed. It is inappropriate to again lower ourselves to beg some master for aid. Thailand is advancing toward newly industrialized country status. Let us not act like a beggar, thus allowing the United States to look at us with contempt.

Malaysian Official Warns Against New Bases

BK2505092290 Hong Kong AFP in English
0906 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 25 (AFP)—Malaysian Defense Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said Friday [25 May] that Southeast Asia does not need new foreign military bases to guarantee regional stability. Mr. Rithauddeen was reacting to Singapore's proposal that the United States use Singapore for military forces if Manila asks Washington to close its bases in the Philippines. Singapore is located at the southern tip of the Malaysian peninsula.

"What is happening in Singapore is a matter of facilities, and Malaysia can live with that," he said here at a news conference after a Joint Thai-Malaysian Border Committee meeting. "However if I have to elaborate further, I think we should not in any way have a new foreign base here, otherwise we would be moving backward," he said.

The Malaysian defense minister urged that ASEAN countries commit to the Kuala Lumpur Declaration which they signed nearly 19 years ago. Foreign ministries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) met in November 1971 in Kuala Lumpur and signed the agreement which essentially declared a Zone of Peace Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) for the region. "We believe that, for the sake of peace and stability in this region, Southeast Asia, we should remain and assure the concept we have," he said. ASEAN groups six non-communist Southeast Asian countries—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Mr. Rithauddeen is at the head of an eight-member delegation here since Wednesday to discuss Thai-Malaysian border cooperation with his counterpart General Chawalit Yongchaiyut. Topics of discussion have included the disbanding of armed units by the defunct Communist Party of Malaya. Mr. Rithauddeen also called for more economic cooperation among members of ASEAN instead of increasing military roles. "The world political scenario has very much improved, and we should look into economic cooperation," he said.

Soviet Trade Delegation Meets Phong Sarasin

BK1805141190 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
1200 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] A Soviet trade delegation led by (B.N. Kapitskiy), which is visiting Thailand 14-21 May, called on Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin at the Government House this morning. The head of the Soviet trade delegation said they are visiting Thailand because there is a common desire by the leaders of the two countries to strengthen bilateral economic and trade relations. On this trip the Soviet trade delegation intends to introduce raw materials and machinery to Thailand and to observe the operation of Thai companies in order to consider placing orders for Thai goods. The Soviet Union will try to buy goods from Thailand directly instead of through third countries because it will help cut costs. The delegation also seeks technological cooperation. The Soviet Union is interested in energy and economic infrastructure. The delegation feels that cooperation between the two countries should start with small projects. The Soviet Union is interested in constructing an electric train system in Chiang Mai province and steel-smelting factories. Ship building and agricultural machinery are among possible cooperation projects between the two countries.

The deputy prime minister welcomed the Soviet trade delegation's visit. If the delegation faces problems in trade talks, he is willing to help resolve them in order to insure successful cooperation. In addition, the deputy prime minister also talked about tourism cooperation.

He suggested that the Soviet Union should open up its country and provide more conveniences and services in order to promote tourism, which will help bring more Thai visitors to the Soviet Union.

The head of the Soviet trade delegation agreed with the deputy prime minister's suggestion and said he hopes that the Soviet Union will develop its tourism industry in the near future. The delegation also said that during its current visit it wants to buy Thai rice because the quality of Thai rice is the best in the world. It wants to buy Thai rice on a regular basis. At the initial stage, the Soviet Union will buy 100,000 tons of rice.

Concluding, the Soviet trade delegation said that the Soviet Union has not had the opportunity to learn about Thailand's industrial production capabilities because Thailand has never held trade exhibitions there. Therefore, the delegation hopes that Thailand will participate in future trade exhibitions to introduce its products to the Soviet people. The deputy prime minister agreed, saying he is willing to support Thai trade exhibitions to the Soviet Union.

Trade Board Urges Delay to Ventures in Burma

BK2205024590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 May 90 p 24

[By Chirawat Krongkaeo]

[Text] The Board of Trade yesterday urged local businesspeople to delay plans to invest in Burma until after the US Congress has deliberated on the Moynihan Bill, which threatens to ban US industry from using raw materials sourced from Burma.

A spokesperson for the local private-sector umbrella organization said on returning from a trip to Burma, that the bill, if passed, could have disastrous consequences for Thailand's exports to the United States. A high proportion of Thai exports contain raw materials sourced from Burma although no official data concerning the imports has been compiled.

The agency believes that the law would provide Washington with a guise for imposing unilateral and protectionist measures against imports from Thailand and other countries.

The bill, proposed by Senator Moynihan (Democrat, New York), calls for an absolute ban on imports that contain raw materials from Burma. It has been designed with the aim of increasing US pressure on the Rangoon military regime.

The organization urged that prospective loggers, fish processors and jewellers adopt a wait-and-see attitude before entering agreements, at least until the Congress deliberates on the bill.

Although the Burmese Government has said publicly it would encourage foreign investment, the agency believes that political instability and threatened economic sanctions have cast a shadow over the prospects for joint investments with Burma.

Moreover, the country lacks marketing expertise and adequate financial procedures, hampering its ability to engage in international trade. Only a few recognized currencies such as the US dollar, Japanese yen, the Swiss franc, German mark and the Canadian dollar are used in business transactions.

It has been rumoured that Rangoon has banned the export of 16 items including animals, shrimp (fresh and dried), rice, maize, beans, sesame seed, raw cotton, rubber, timber, ivory, petroleum products, precious stones and jewellery, logistic weapons and antiques. Prohibited imports include televisions, videos, air conditioners, refrigerators and alcohol. The list of prohibited imports and exports has yet to be officially announced.

Thailand exports monosodium glutamate, casting and nylon nets, textiles and consumer goods to Burma. It imports timber, antimony, jewellery and precious stones worth a combined Bt [baht] 1.6 billion annually.

Memorandum on Borderline Signed With Burma

BK2205111590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Thailand and Burma have reached an agreement on the border demarcation at the Sai and Ruak Rivers following meetings of the Joint Thai-Burmese Border Demarcation Survey Committee on 13-21 May. Both sides have signed a memorandum of understanding on agreements involving the borderline map, border limit reference chart, and deep channel chart. The ceremony took place at the Treaty and Legal Department of the Foreign Ministry on 21 May. Lieutenant General Methi Samuttharak, director of the Armed Forces Survey Department, signed on behalf of Thailand, and U Maung Maung, director general of the Survey Department, signed on behalf of Burma.

Lieutenant General Methi Samuttharak reported after the signing of the memorandum that both sides spent about three years on the survey and demarcation of the Thai-Burmese border on a 58-km stretch along the Sai and Ruak Rivers, from Sop Ruak in Chiang Saen District to the mountain ridge that cuts through the deep channel in Sai River, Mae Sai District, Chiang Rai Province. The demarcation work was conducted smoothly. Both sides agreed to use a permanent line to divide the two borders, based on the deep channel in the rivers during the period of the survey. The permanent borderline will help both countries avoid any problems caused by the rivers changing course.

In addition, both countries agreed that the water from the rivers will be used by both countries for irrigation and navigation. The director of the Armed Forces Survey Department said that the agreement is technical in nature and that this is the first time the two countries agreed to use a permanent borderline. The signing of the memorandum at the government level will be held at a later date. Asked whether the permanent border demarcation will be applied to the border demarcation at Moei River, the director of the Armed Forces Survey Department said that this depends on the government's policy.

Army Warns Villagers of Lao Toxic Chemicals

BK2205015590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 May 90 p 3

[Text] Loei—The Third Army Region has warned villagers along the Thai-Lao border to beware of toxic chemicals scattered by rockets Lao troops use against rebel forces, an Army source said yesterday.

The regional Army headquarters has issued similar warnings periodically to border residents in Nan, Phayao, Chiang Rai and Uttaradit provinces since the beginning of this month, when Lao troops intensified their dry-season offensive against rebels along the border, the source said.

The Third Army Region reported it found substantial toxic contamination on vegetation near Nam Oun stream in Mae Charim district of Nan after Lao troops attacked rebel forces in the vicinity with chemical rockets, he said.

According to the Army's findings, direct contacts with the chemicals could cause respiratory malfunctions and faintness. People drinking water contaminated with the substances develop stomach aches and diarrhea and vomit.

Villagers were told to stay away from areas tainted by the chemicals, which leave a yellow tint on vegetation, and to inform authorities immediately if they notice any contamination.

The source said the Third Army Region had learned that the chemical rockets were used last by Lao troops at Nam Poun military camp in Sayaboury on May 14 in an attack on rebel forces opposite Nan.

Fierce battles have been going on between Lao troops and the rebels since the beginning of this year after Lao Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan ordered an intensive campaign against rebel forces led by Gen [General] Wang Pao and Gen Thonglit Sokbengboun, who have reportedly formed a clandestine government in Sayaboury.

Lao authorities informed their Thai counterparts during a border meeting in February that some artillery shells might accidentally hit Thai territory during the offensive and they should not regard such incidents as attacks against Thailand, the source said.

He said Wang Pao and Thonglit are thought to command about 1,000 armed troops with support from Lao villagers and Hmong tribesmen in eight border villages. Lao troops have attacked the rebels' bases with heavy artillery since February, killing 22 rebel soldiers, but still have not been able to destroy their strongholds.

A number of stray shells have landed in remote forests on the Thai border in Nan's Mae Charim district but caused no damage or casualties, the source said.

IMF Status To Be Raised, WB Debts Repaid

BK1905095390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 May 90 p 17

[Text] As Thailand will elevate its position under the International Monetary Fund [IMF] Agreement on May 21, it is also set to repay all its debts with the World Bank [WB] within this month, said Finance Minister Pramuan Saphawasu.

He said the official announcement of the elevation of Thailand's position from Article 14 of the International Monetary Fund Agreement to Article 8 will be announced by Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Such elevation of Thailand's position will in effect free up rigid foreign exchange controls on "current" transactions such as imports and exports.

The announcement on the related foreign exchange controls will be made effective on June 1.

A Bank of Thailand source said as such deregulation of foreign exchange controls will involve operators of commercial banks, foreign bank branches, finance and securities companies, the Bank of Thailand will invite representatives from all Thai commercial banks, foreign bank branches and around 20 financial firms to attend the announcement at Government House on May 21.

As there will be a freer flow of funds into and out of the country, the central bank will have to do foreign exchange rate fixing more than once a day.

Eventually, the daily fixing system will have to be scrapped to make it a fully free market along with a free floating interest rate but not in the immediate future.

Mr Pramuan also said Thailand's credit rating will be improved and it will enjoy the same financial status as other developed countries.

"Our fiscal and monetary positions have become strong enough for us to deregulate the present foreign exchange controls."

The move was considered timely as Thailand will next year host the International Monetary Fund/World Bank annual meeting which will be attended by top bankers and monetary authorities worldwide.

Mr Pramuan also disclosed that the ministry had already decided to clear all the existing debts Thailand has with the World Bank within the end of this month.

"We just wanted to clear the debts because they carried high costs."

Editorial on Failure of 'Dictatorial' Press Bill

BK2405022590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 May 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Understanding the Press"]

[Text] Common sense prevailed in the cabinet meeting on Tuesday [22 May] as it brushed aside a draft bill of the Interior Ministry that would give dictatorial powers to interior authorities to control the press. The cabinet, instead, re-endorsed the Prime Minister's promise to abolish Decree 42, the anti-freedom law, and directed interior authorities drafting a new press bill to consult with editors.

Though the outcome fell short of the expectations that the cabinet would submit a bill to abolish Decree 42 without any more delay, it represented a slight progress. At least authoritarians in the Chatchai administration, who have insisted on maintaining tight control over the press, failed to ram their bill down their colleagues' throats.

Now even Interior Minsiter Banhan Sinlapa-acha concedes that the power to punish and close a newspaper must rest with the courts, rather than in the hands of the police director-general or the interior minister. Deputy Interior Minister Sano Thianthong, who is directly in charge of drafting a new press bill, prefers keeping the power in the Interior Ministry and offers one concession: Any newspaper facing a closure order can appeal to the Interior Minister who must act on the appeal within 15 days. This, Sano reasons, is an adequate guarantee against abuse of power because the Interior Minister is bound to complete considering the appeal and reviewing the closure order within a definite time.

But Sano overlooks the simple fact that it is inherently undemocratic for the Interior Minister to hold law enforcement powers concurrently with the powers to mete out punishment and to review the appeal to the punishment. Universal practice is to separate executive powers from judicial powers.

One main reason the Chatchai administration, particularly Banhan and Sano, would not abolish Decree 42 now is that without this dictatorial law, the government would have to rely chiefly on the Press and Publication Act of B.E. 2484, enacted 49 years ago. This obsolete law includes stringent provisions aimed at limiting press freedom as the country was under de facto Japanese military occupation then. But this law merely requires the publisher to notify the press authorities—instead of asking for their permission—when he or she starts a new newspaper or publication.

Banhan fears that without the power to control the birth of newspapers, the country would be overwhelmed with 200 or 300 new newspapers. He says such prospect is of great concern to him because chaos could follow.

Banhan need not fear a proliferation of new newspapers. He must distinguish between bona fide newspapers and anonymous leaflets. Newspapers are openly published, printed and distributed. All publishers and editors are under control of numerous laws, notably the Civil and Commercial Code, the Criminal Code, and the Anti-Communist Activity Law.

Outsiders may think that it is easy to start a newspaper. But it takes more than a great deal of money to keep a newspaper afloat. Newspapers nowadays, like all other big businesses, face tough competition against one another. The market forces will eventually put non-competitive newspapers out of business.

Newspapers that serve as mouthpieces of politicians cannot hope to prosper because Thai readers are increasingly selective in their purchase of newspapers. Nobody wants to buy or advertise in a propaganda publication. (The Thai audience is also quite selective in its TV viewing and many have switched to less politicized stations.)

Undoubtedly political parties and pressure groups will try to start newspapers to air their views. This shouldn't be a cause for concern because it is part of a democratic system in which different views have equal opportunity to be heard. A free press is indeed the only venue for opposition politicians and the public at large to counterbalance the government and the Army in Thailand which benefit from their joint monopoly of radio and TV operations here.

Banhan and Sano obviously still entertain the old notion of newspapers being used as tools of politicians to undercut rivals. Their upcoming consultation with editors will be an eye-opening experience for them.

Vietnam

Hanoi Calls for Normalized Relations With China

BK2505113190 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 25 May 90

[Station article]

[Text] First Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem has completed his visit to China. During his stay in Beijing from May 1 to 8, Mr. Dinh Nho Liem had working contacts with a number of Chinese diplomats. In particular, he was received by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. During the talks, the two sides exchanged opinions on the restoration of the traditional friendship between Vietnam and China and normalizing relations between the two countries. They also compared notes on opinions contributing to an overall fair and reasonable solution to the Cambodian problem on the basis of respecting the sovereignty and in the interest of the Cambodian people.

Both Vietnam and China evaluated these talks as useful and effective. They reached the common ground on a number of aspects. A spokeswoman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry in the May 8 press conference affirmed: Recent talks between Mr. Dinh Nho Liem and leaders of the Chinese Foreign Ministry were beneficial to the mutual understanding between the countries.

Of course, Mr. Dinh Nho Liem's visit to China this time could not solve all the differences between the two countries, but it was still significant. In the wake of this visit, Vietnam and China have resumed their meetings in order to normalize Sino-Vietnamese relations, and this is also the first time, after many years of differences, that the two countries have begun to agree on some issues. In fact, if both Vietnam and China are determined to restore relations, surely they can achieve their goal because Vietnam and China are close socialist neighbors having a long and fine traditional friendship.

During the national liberation struggle, the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Communist Party of China closely united and assisted each other in the fight against common enemy to liberate the country and wrest back independence and freedom for their people. Our late President Ho Chi Minh and many other Vietnamese leaders carried out revolutionary activities on Chinese land in the course of both the Vietnamese and Chinese revolutions.

The Chinese supported and assisted the Vietnamese in the anti-French resistance, in the building of the socialist north, as well as in the struggle against the United States to save the country and liberate the south. Through their struggle, the Vietnamese helped and supported the Chinese in their cause of building and defending socialism in China. This mutual support and assistance in the cause of liberating and building the nation has constituted a deep historical link in the relations between the two countries and the profound friendly sentiment between the two peoples. Our late President Ho Chi Minh during his lifetime said: The Vietnam-China close relations are the relations between comrades and between brothers.

In the recent article written in a bulletin INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, First Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem commented that the abnormal situation over the past 10 years in the Vietnam-China relations was just temporary compared with the friendly history of the two countries. Vietnam believes that China shares this view because Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem has been warmly received in Beijing.

Earlier, during the reception given to the former Vietnamese ambassador to China before he left Beijing for home for the new mission and to the new ambassador who presented his credentials, Chinese Premier Li Peng expressed his wish for the normalization of the Sino-Vietnamese relations to meet the fundamental long-term interest of the two countries. Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen also made clear that anyway normalization of relations would be beneficial to both sides in many respects.

Over the past years, Vietnam has been persistent in trying to restore relations between the two countries. Vietnam's perception is to normalize relations through negotiations, step by step settle pending problems, cite the similar viewpoints, and put aside differences. Vietnam overlooks the past and looks straight into the future. The Vietnamese National Assembly has amended the preamble of the Vietnamese Constitution not calling China as the expansionist. Vietnam has also opened a number of northern border gates to let people of both sides call on one another and purchase necessary commodities.

These moves by Vietnam and China on normalizing relations between the two countries have contributed to the result of the recent visit to China of Mr. Dinh Nho Liem.

Cambodian Stance on UN Participation Supported

BK2405151290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 May 90

[Report on VNA interview with SRV Foreign Ministry spokesman; place and date not given]

[Text] [VNA] Lately, it has been reported that despite some progress, the recent Sino-Vietnamese exchange of views in Beijing failed to solve anything because Vietnam still maintained its rigid stance of refusing to accept the role of the United Nations in verifying the troop withdrawal and supervising the general elections in Cambodia. Comrade, what is your comment on this issue?

[SRV spokesman] On the recent Sino-Vietnamese exchange of views in Beijing, both Vietnam and China held that the meeting was useful and effective and that it helped enhance mutual understanding. Both sides found common ground on a number of issues, but they still had some differing views. Vietnam has always adopted a constructive stance, and it completed the withdrawal of its army volunteers from Cambodia in September 1989. Right then, Vietnam and the State of Cambodia invited other countries to send observers to witness this event. Vietnam's goodwill has been recognized and welcomed by broad sections of world public opinion. Also with this constructive spirit, Vietnam affirmed its readiness to join the parties concerned in reaching an agreement on international verification, including that by the United Nations, of Vietnam's complete troop withdrawal from Cambodia. The Chinese side welcomed Vietnam's readiness to accept international verification of its troop withdrawal.

Therefore, if a certain report says Vietnam maintains a rigid stance regarding the role of the United Nations as mentioned above, it is false. Vietnam totally supports the stance of the State of Cambodia, which holds that the United Nations must play a role in supervising and controlling the agreements reached on the settlement of the Cambodian issue, the general elections included, on the basis of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty.

Cambodian Situation of Past Eight Months Viewed

BK2305043190 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 22 May 90

[Station commentary: "Eight Months After the Complete Withdrawal of Vietnamese Troops"]

[Text] After the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops on 26 September last year, many people maintained that the Phnom Penh government would not be able to stand on its own. On the contrary, the Phnom Penh government has been consolidated and has effectively controlled the country. In addition, the Cambodian people's war has developed. The infantry and border defense forces have been strengthened.

As a result, in the early months of this year the Cambodian People's Armed Forces recorded repeated achievements which were of strategic significance to the Cambodian revolution. The Cambodian People's Armed Forces took over the whole area of (Prachet), an important position in the border province of Banteay Meanchey occupied by the Khmer reactionaries late last year. Recently, the Phnom Penh government has just attacked a number of outer positions in this province. The BBC commented that the Khmer opposition forces suffered a humiliating defeat in this battlefield. These victories affirm the steady development of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces which are able to defend their own country. They also show the capacity of the State of Cambodia's Government in defending the people's gains

The total Vietnamese troop pullout from Cambodia has facilitated the trend of dialogue to solve the Cambodian issue. Diplomatic activities have been (?blustering) over the past eight months, including many peace initiatives aimed at seeking a solution. Worthy of note was the initiative and a cease-fire put forth by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, the American (word indistinct) proposal for a halt in military aid to all Cambodian sides, and initiative of Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans on the settlement of the Cambodian issue according to the Namibia formula.

Meanwhile, there were many forums discussing the solution to the Cambodian issue, including the first and second meetings of five big nations comprising the Soviet Union, United States, China, France, and Britain, the sixth meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk in Bangkok, and their coming meeting in Tokyo. These developments prove the correctness of the solution to the Cambodian issue through dialogue and have created a common understanding toward the settlement of Cambodia.

Over the past eight months, the State of Cambodia upheld the banner of peace and independence, demonstrating its goodwill and high responsiveness in implementing the national reconciliation policy and seeking its permanent independence. In particular, the world has appreciated the State of Cambodia's acceptance of the UN role in solving the Cambodian issue, considering it a great concession.

In international conferences as well as meetings within Cambodian sides, the Cambodian government showed its sincere and constructive attitude and put forth a number of initiatives aimed at finding a solution to the Cambodian issue. It is worth noting that recently many countries in the region and in the world have established relations with Cambodia in different forms. Delegations from Foreign Ministry of Japan, the European Economic Community, and of the United Nations have visited the country. This testifies to growing prestige and role of the State of Cambodia in the region.

Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen recently said that Cambodia will continue its goodwill and flexibility in the settlement of the Cambodian issue through dialogue. In the coming period, efforts for a political solution to the problem will be further enhanced. However, there are obstacles on the road to a solution. Vietnam maintains that with goodwill and efforts of all sides, the coming meeting will receive positive results, thus helping to find a correct political solution.

Cambodian State-Party Delegation Departs 23 May

BK2405115090 Hanoi VNA in English 1558 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 23—The high-level delegation of the Cambodian party and state, which had come for the celebrations of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary, left here for home today.

The delegation was led by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the State Council.

While here, the Cambodian guests paid floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his home and office. They attended the meeting in commemoration of the late president's birthday and the inauguration of the Ho Chi Minh Museum in Hanoi.

They were cordially received on May 18 by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and Do Muoi, Politburo member of the party C.C. and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The Vietnamse leaders sincerely thanked the Cambodian party and state leaders for their participation in the celebrations here of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary, which they said manifested the profound sentiment of the Cambodian communists and people toward President Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnamese people.

President Heng Samrin on behalf of the delegation, expressed the deep respect and gratitude of the Cambodian communists and people toward President Ho Chi Minh, the beloved leader of the Vietnamese people, who had laboriously cultivated and developed the solidarity and friendship between Vietnam and Cambodia.

The Vietnamese leaders assured their Cambodian guests of Vietnam's unswerving policy of constantly consolidating and strengthening the militant solidarity, friendship and close cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia.

While in Vietnam, the Cambodian delegation paid a visit to President Ho's home village in Nghe Tinh. They conferred Cambodia's Friendship Order on a number of Vietnamese experts who had rendered valuable assistance to Cambodia's national defence and construction.

Vo Chi Cong Leaves for Algeria, Libya Visits

BK2405161090 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 24—Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council and Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, left here this afternoon for official visits to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Vigilance Against Imperialist 'Schemes' Urged

Nguyen Van Linh Cited

BK2405105790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 22 May 90

["Topical Talk" with station editor Dao Loc Binh entitled: "Heighten Vigilance Against the Enemy's Schemes Against Vietnam"]

[Text] Dear listeners, last week I discussed imperialism's and reactionaries' schemes against the world revolutionary movement. Today I will talk about their schemes against Vietnam. Some of you may ask whether there is anything new about these schemes. My answer is yes, and here are some expressions from Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh in his speech delivered at the 16 May session of the fourth conference of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers Executive Committee in Hanoi:

Vietnam is now also the target of opposition and attack by some imperialist forces. With their support, reactionaries among overseas Vietnamese are trying in every way to cause instability, instigate dissatisfaction, and stir up trouble in order to undermine our cause of renovation. In particular, they are capitalizing on the labels of democracy and openness to oppose and attack in order to deny the leadership of the Communist party, demand political pluralism, multipartyism and opposition parties, progressively change the political regime in our country, and turn it onto the capitalist road. The reactionaries in the country are not standing idly by; they are raising their heads.

Regrettably, some cadres and party members have become utopian or confused. They have even given them a helping hand, seriously violating party and mass organization discipline and law. Such activities cannot be passed off lightly. Our party, state, working class and people have remained calm and firm. They are dealing with various socioeconomic tasks, broadening socialist democracy, struggling against negative behavior and, at the same time, sharpening their sense of vigilance to resolutely prevent and smash all enemy plots and acts of sabotage. The party and state have continued to broaden democracy and listen solicitously to all constructive views from people However, we will not tolerate acts that take advantage of democracy to undermine and attack the party, state, and socialist regime.

You comrades and friends may now see that Vietnam is obviously the target of the imperialist "peaceful evolution" scheme. I am sure all of you are well aware that the great achievements and successes in our country's national liberation and socialist revolutions over the past 60 years—those that resulted in gaining national independence, freedom, peace, and unification for our country—were due chiefly to the efforts of our CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] leadership and Uncle Ho. As a result, the first thing the enemy aims to undermine is the CPV. In their concept, to eliminate the CPV leadership is to eliminate the efficacy of our economic, social, political, ideological, and cultural domains; our revolution; and our struggle to build a new man. To achieve this, the enemy has strengthened their collusions to continue carrying out the multifaceted war of sabotage against our nation. Their most wicked scheme is to use psychological warfare against our ideology and sow division among our people.

We learned that since the emergence of crises and confusion in socialist countries in Eastern Europe in late 1989, the enemy, capitalizing on our difficulties and our foreign policy of goodwill and openness, has shipped to Vietnam more than 500 kinds of reactionary propaganda documents. These documents—some of them in hundreds of copies—came through various channels to south Vietnam from many countries such as Great Britain, France, the United States, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Poland, Australia, Hong Kong, and others. Their contents focussed on attacking the CPV and the State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Worthy of note are documents stinking of instigation, revenge, and vengeance such as those belonging to the Hoang Co Minh clique in the United States, the Canh Tan and Phuc Viet Parties in France, the monthly Thong Luan. Other documents include the so-called heartfelt letter of exiled Vietnamese in 11 countries, the letter of the Solidarity Trade Union, the letters of the churches of certain countries, and the like. Even worse, the exiled Vietnamese reactionaries in Britain have claimed in the Que Me magazine the launching of a so-called campaign to shift the flame back home. What flame? The true nature of this flame was partly brought to light by QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in its 27 and 28 April 1990 articles. This flame involves brazen distortions that are unbelievable to the ears of patriotic Vietnamese.

They have made black white, spoken ill of, defamed, and driven a wedge between the communist party and the people, and have appealed them to oppose the party. They have urged the people to demand dissolution of all state enterprises and collective farms, undermine the economic structure, hold demonstrations to claim back their land, oppose tax collection, stage labor strikes, leave state enterprises to engage in trade businesses, secretely set up associations, oppose the implementation of military service, oppose the law, and so forth. For intellectuals, writers, and artistes, they have cajoled and bought them off, urging them to demand freedom of creativity, the right to read literary works of the Free World, freedom of movement, and unrestricted travel abroad. In particular, they cleverly use this group's opportunity to criticize in order to directly attack the nature of the regime.

Through many reports and documentary sources, it is learned that the U.S. lackey puppet troops and government employees—who once had heavy blood debts to the people, and who had already fled to foreign countries—are now showing delight over what they think will be their imminent return to set up the Third Republic. Nguyen Van Thieu, Nguyen Cao Ky, Tran Thien Khiem, and Nguyen Khanh have all come forward. Even ex-Emperor Bao Dai—whom every one thought had died long ago—appears to desire stepping onto the stage now.

Meanwhile, in the country, due to external instigation, there have been indications of reactionaries of all stripes seeking alliances with one another and gathering their forces in hopes of resumming their counterrevolutionary activities. Some have shown their delight prematurely, as have their men overseas. They have addressed themselves by their former ranks and positions under the U.S. puppet rule. They are a handful of remnants of the former parties and factions such as Dai Viet, Quoc Dan Dang, Xa Hoi Dan Chu, and Can Lao Nhan Vi in Vietnam's central and southern provinces. They are a few elements hiding themselves in various religions, societies, and mass organizations in many provinces, cities, and rural, lowland, mountain and highland areas.

In certain localities, a number of people belonging to various societies and mass organizations, who have been exploited, instigated, and misled by miscreants, are struggling for unlimited democratic liberties. They have printed, distributed, and disseminated reactionary and subversive documents. In the north, there have also been signs of the enemy's surreptitious activities in Hanoi, Haiphong, Thai Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Cao Bang, Son La, and Hoang Lien Son.

As part of their attempts to oppose and sabotage Vietnam, the enemy continues to resort to embargo and isolation in order to undermine our economy and restrain us from carrying out construction for development. They have also paid great attention to infiltrating our country from abroad through either open and legal or secret and illegal ways. This is to establish contact with local reactionaries and antigovernment elements in hopes of setting up armed elements in preparation for a rebellion with outside support.

It should be noted that the United States has affirmed that in the common trend of switching from confrontation to dialogue in the world, the Far East region—Southeast Asia—continues to be a hot spot conducive to an armed dispute. The Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, regards Vietnam as the center of that hot spot. That is why it has deployed a multifarious specific intelligence plan which calls for many measures such as collecting intelligence through the sattellite system and aerial electronic surveillance network, intensifying infiltration from foreign countries with attention to employing tourists and people from countries that have friendly relations with Vietnam, and Vietnamese living in exile. They also advocate using people inside the country, concentrating on ethnic people and Catholics.

We learned that in the first quarter of 1990, more than 27,000 foreigners and 12,600 overseas Vietnamese entered Vietnam, an increase of 201 percent compared with the same period last year. Indeed, we are pleased to welcome friends from all over the world to visit and establish trade relations with Vietnam and our compatriots paying visits to their fatherland. However, at the same time, we must heighten vigilance and take appropriate precautionary measures to accurately pinpoint the bad elements in disguise.

Over the past 10 years, we have discovered seven cases of illegal infiltrations involving more than 500 persons. They entered by sea, air, and land routes in the 9th, 7th, 5th, and 4th military regions. In February and March 1990, we discovered and arrested 14 persons armed with weapons and reactionary documents who intruded into our country through Quang Tri and Dac Lac provinces and Ho Chi Minh City. In light of this, our people and Army cannot belittle the enemy's schemes and tactics. In this program next week, I will talk more about the enemy's wicked schemes against our Armed Forces.

To conclude today's talk, I would like to repeat some judicious expressions made by Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh at the conference of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers Executive Committee last week. The comrade general secretary said: Our working class and laboring people clearly realize that despite temporary difficulties in the international communist and worker movement, socialist ideas will not collapse. Capitalism and all its inherent diseases are not the final solution to the evolutionary process of mankind's history. Capitalism has spawned oppression, exploitation, social evils and injustice, the brunt of which is borne by the working class and laboring people.

There is at present a dangerous and contradictory phenomenon. Some people who have returned from visits to capitalist countries from a few days of horse riding and flower contemplating, have spared no words in praising capitalism, surprising even loyal people living under capitalist regimes. Although we are very solicitous, we cannot let the laboring people, especially our youths, become victims of deceptive allegations by those who want to protect capitalism, or of ungrounded praise of some credulous utopians.

General Views Strategy

BK2405155790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 May 90

["Excerpt" from 23 May QUAN DOI NHAN DAN article by Major General Doan Chuong: "Be Vigilant Against Imperialism's Dark Scheme of Peaceful Evolution"]

[Text] Following the situation in Eastern Europe, we cannot help feeling sad because of the bitter truth in a number of countries there. The people's legitimate aspirations have been grossly betrayed. Faced with a crisis in the process of building socialism in the new stage, people longed for reform and restructuring so there could be better democracy and more room for socialist construction. Profound changes never seen before in history have taken place. Nevertheless, the end result in a number of countries is that opposition forces have easily deprived the people of the right of mastery through elaborately-worded promises. In the meantime, there have been no better conditions for implementing socialist construction, and socialist achievements have been denied and socialist gains abolished step by step.

Many lessons must be drawn from those historic events. Nevertheless, the most urgent lesson to learn while seeking ways to resolve the internal conflicts arising from restructuring, reform, and renovation must be the need to remain vigilant in the face of imperialism's dark scheme of peaceful evolution.

The imperialist forces are by nature resolved in their attempts to oppose socialism and cling to their positions and selfish interests. In the past when the balance of power lay with the revolutionary camp and revolutionary forces were on the offensive, imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism applied the strategy of containment, blockade, embargo, and sabotage. It relied mainly on military strength to launch strong attacks at outer defenses in order to hold communist expansion. Now that the process of socialist construction in many countries has been tangled in a crisis, especially when errors committed by a number of countries in the process of restructuring and reform have created a deadly vacuum, the imperialist forces are quick to grasp the opportunity and shift to the strategy of beyond containment by launching fierce attacks at the very stronghold of socialism from all sides. On the one hand, they are still relying on the strength of military deterrence. On the other, they have used all kinds of flexible, nonmilitary forces to launch direct attacks at the brain center and have brazenly intervened in the internal affairs of socialist countries in order to implement peaceful evolution and win victories without having to wage war. This makes their illusionary hope of eliminating communism from the planet within this very century come true.

Since imperialism is delightfully contemplating new feats of arms, Vietnam can in no way stand outside as an exception. People who have calmly followed the situation can note that the imperialist forces and their reactionary exiled henchmen have on the one hand launched a campaign to shift the flame of war back home. On the other hand, they have tried by all means to build up, make contact with, and develop opposition forces from within the country in a bid to launch attacks from within and without to overthrow the socialist regime in Vietnam. Is it not true that the so-called Vietnam Human Rights Committee and QUE ME [Motherland] magazine published in Great Britain have openly discussed the dark scheme aimed at establishing a country based on the principles of pluralism and a multiparty system and then gradually turning that country into a truly democratic and free nation? As far as this dark scheme is concerned, Vietnam is also a place for the enemy to avenge itself for its ignominous setback. Therefore, this dark scheme is characterized by both an all-out competition and a deep-rooted vengeful attempt. This situation requires our Armed Forces and people to remain highly vigilant.

Peaceful evolution is the soul of the strategy that goes beyond containment. The chief formula of this strategy consists of political pluralism and the market economy, with political pluralism as the battering ram. Using political pluralism as the spearhead, the enemy deals a wicked blow to manipulate the general masses' legitimate desires for freedom and democracy. This is to serve its sinister design to bring down the communist party and topple the socialist system.

Political pluralism is nothing new. It is the bourgeoisie's concept about the political institution of the capitalist system. Its true nature is to accept the existence and operation of opposition parties in order to ease the conflict of interests among the various components of the bourgeoisie as well as among the capitalists, the proletariat, and the laboring masses. Let us take a look at the capitalist countries! At times, they outlaw the communist party. At other times, they allow it to operate openly and even accept its administration in a certain area. This depends on the balance of the class struggle, but it still remains difficult for the communist party to seize power through a legislative struggle. Thus, the bourgeois parties have taken turns assuming power; the people are not allowed to exercise their right as masters.

Under the bourgeois system, it is fairly ironic that the people have to conduct a farce of democracy to install the bourgeoisie as their master. Things cannot happen otherwise, however. Since the bourgeoisie has claimed mastery in the economic field, it will seek by every means to attain political mastery to safeguard its selfish interests.

Meanwhile, our concept of political institution envisages true democracy for the people and mastery by the people. In today's era, the people's mastery is inseparable from the role and mission of leadership of the proletariat, the class that stands in the center of the era.

Therefore, contrary to what some people think, leadership by the communist party does not conflict with mastery by the people. Instead, it is an objective necessity and a requirement of the times. Take the history of our nation for instance. Our forefathers defeated feudalism to gain and defend the nation's right to mastery. When the capitalists and imperialists invaded our country, the crisis became insolvable. It was not until Uncle Ho discovered the road of Marxism-Leninism—the revolutionary road of the proletariat, the class with the historic mission of digging the grave to bury capitalism—and founded the Communist Party of Vietnam to assume leadership that our people wrested back their right to mastery. Now, as developing the right to mastery is meant to build socialism, the leadership of the communist party is needed all the more.

Unless it is a fake, no type of socialism can be built without the communist party's leadership. Our state is a state of the people, by the people, and for people. We openly declare that it is a proletarian dictatorship state. Let us ask what kind of state is not a dictatorship state of a certain class. It just so happens that the bourgeoisie does not dare to admit this publicly.

Our state is a state of mastery by the people. To ensure the people's right to mastery it must practice dictatorship toward the enemy of the people. Basing themselves on the concept of political pluralism, the enemy criticizes our system as being undemocratic because we have no opposition parties. Let us ask what the opposition is for. Is it opposition against the communist party's leadership? If it is, logic dictates that this opposition is also opposition against the people's mastery, and this is what we definitely do not accept.

Our people know what kind of democracy the French and particularly the Americans exercised in Vietnam. It was a kind of democracy whereby the people are not the masters. Our people had to sacrifice untold blood and bones before regaining their sacred right to be masters. However, the enemy is mobilizing everyone it can, including Bao Dai, Nguyen Van Thieu, Nguyen Cao Ky, and others, to return allegedly to teach our people a lesson in democracy.

In the process of socialist construction, we have committed shortcomings and errors in exercising democracy, such as bureaucratism, commandism, and restrictiveness. Some individuals have been despotistic and arbitrary. Others have become corrupt and indulged in prerogatives and special privileges. This is against the nature of our regime. Therefore, democratizing all social activity must be one of the priorities of our party's and state's renovative policy. We must jointly struggle in order to exercise democracy more satisfactorily—better promoting people's mastery. We absolutely must not accept political pluralism and opposition parties. Otherwise, the opponents, not the people, will be the masters and socialism destroyed.

As for the market economy, we must clearly realize the difference in concepts between the enemy and us. The market economy advocated by the enemy is based on the system of private ownership. That is why they have forced us to privatize our economy in exchange for their aid and abrogation of their embargo. They have no purpose other than to restore capitalism. Meanwhile, we advocate a multisectoral commodity production, which necessitates a market structure. Commodity prodution advocated by us involves many economic sectors, with the state-run economic sector taking the lead. Moreover, this multisectoral commodity production is carried out in a planned fashion and is readjusted in the direction of socialism.

Our country has also faced a socioeconomic crisis. Our party has been clear-sighted enough to actively set forth a judicious and creative renovative line. With firm determination and appropriate steps, the renovation undertaking in our country has produced initial important results attested to by reality and admired by the world.

In the final analysis, renovation is designed to resolve internal divergences for further advancement. From experiences learned abroad, in carrying out renovation, we must be highly vigilant against the imperialists' attempts to achieve peaceful evolution. However, we must not cite vigilance as an excuse to remain conservative, refusing to undergo renovation. Instead, we must carry out renovation more vigorously with firm objectives and appropriate steps. The enemy does not want anything less than seeing our instability so they can take advantage of the situation and achieve peaceful evolution. To cope with this, we must maintain stability to carry out renovation. We must carry out renovation for better stability. The crux of all problems is unity. The enemy will not be able to cause us harm if our entire party, state, and people are united in one bloc. It is as Uncle Ho taught: Unity, unity, great unity; success, success, great success.

Council of State Meets, Issues Communique

BK2405161990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 May 90

[Council of State's communique on its 22-23 May session]

[Text] The Council of State has issued a communique as follows:

On 22 and 23 May 1990, the Council of State met under the chairmanship of President Vo Chi Cong.

1. After hearing representatives of the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly Economics, Planning, and Budget Committee and Judiciary Committee report on the results of a review of the draft regulation on the Vietnam State Bank and the draft regulation on credit banks, credit cooperatives, and financial corporations, the Council of State held debates and ratified these draft regulations.

The Council of State reminded the Council of Ministers of the need to promptly promulgate the necessary documents to guarantee the implementation of these regulations and to guide the banking sector in adjusting its organization and cadre-related work, in taking timely and severe action against violations of the system governing the management of financial and monetary affairs, and in meeting various socioeconomic sectors' requirements and the people's demands.

2. The Council of State heard representatives of the Council of Ministers present a project on amending and supplementing the law on foreign investment in Vietnam and listened to the views of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee and Economics, Planning, and Budget Committee concerning this draft law. The Council of State noted that after more than two years of implementation, the law on foreign investment in Vietnam has begun to be efficient in attracting foreign investment and in contributing to broadening our state's external economic relations. The Council of State also noted that realities from the implementation of this law have also raised a number of problems that need to be amended and supplemented in time in order to create more favorable conditions for foreign investment projects in Vietnam. The Council of State gave its opinions and assigned the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee and Economics, Planning, and Budget Committee with the task of amending this draft law so the Council of State can revise it before submitting to the National Assembly at its seventh session.

3. The Council of State heard representatives of the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly Economics, Planning, and Budget Committee and Judiciary Committee sum up the people's suggestions and the committees' projected amendment of the four draft laws on agriculture, business, special consumption, and income taxes. The Council of State warmly praised compatriots throughout the country, all echelons and sectors, the Fatherland Front, and mass organizations at the central and local levels for their concrete suggestions to the formulation of the four draft tax laws. The Council of State has assigned the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly Economics, Planning, and Budget Committee and Judiciary Committee with the task of continuing to review those draft tax laws for submission to the National Assembly at its seventh session.

4. The Council of State heard representatives of the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee report on the results of a drive to solicit opinions and make amendments to the law on Vietnam Navigation based on the suggestions made by National Assembly delegates and a number of localities and sectors concerned. The Council of State gave its opinions and entrusted the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly Judiciary Committee with the task of amending this draft law for submission to the National Assembly at its seventh session.

5. the Council of State heard the Chief Procurator present the draft law on amending and supplementing the Law on Criminal Procedures, and report on the suggestions contributed by a number of localities on this draft law. The Council of State entrusted the Supreme People's Organ of Control with the task of continuing to collect suggestions from some localities for study, revision, and submission to the National Assembly at its seventh session.

6. The Council of State decided to convene the Seventh Session of the Eighth National Assembly in mid-June and adopted its tentative agenda. At this session, the National Assembly will consider and adopt the Law on Trade Unions, the Law on Agricultural Tax, the Law on Business Tax, the Law on Income Tax, the Law on Special Consumption Tax, the Maritime Law, the Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Criminal Procedures, and the Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam. The National Assembly will hear reports on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Sixth Session of the National Assembly on the task of socioeconomic development and the state budget during the first six months of 1990. It will also hear reports on our state's diplomatic activities during the first half of this year, ratify various resolutions of the Council of State on organizations and personnel of the Council of Ministers, and consider a number of other important issues.

7. The Council of State heard a report on the results of the official friendship visit to Australia from 9 to 17 May by our National Assembly delegation led by its Chairman Le Quang Dao. The Council of State welcomed and highly appreciated the results of the visit, which has contributed to strengthening the friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples and National Assemblies of Vietnam and Australia.

Regulations on People's Councils Announced

BK2305104790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 May 1990, the offices of the National Assembly and the Council of State held a news conference to announce regulations on the organization and operation of People's Councils at all levels which were approved by the Council of State at its 15 May meeting. This important legal document concretizes the stipulations of the new law on the organization of People's Councils and People's Committees. It inherits from the practical experiences summarized at the National Conference on People's Councils held 10-12 April 1990 in Hanoi. This contributes to creating conditions for People's Councils at all levels to operate with real power and results in order to meet the new requirements and overcome the perfunctory manner of operations recently observed.

The regulations consists of eight chapters and 62 articles as follows:

Chapter one: People's Councillors; Chapter two: People's Council meetings; Chapter three: Standing committees of People's Councils; Chapter four: Sections of People's Councils; Chapter five: Relations between People's Councils and their standing committees and sections; Chapter six: Relations between People's Councils and the Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee and mass and other social organizations; Chapter seven: Guarantees for implementing the duty and authority of People's Councils; and Chapter eight: Final clauses.

Nguyen Van Linh's PRAVDA Article Cited

BK2305103190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 20 May 90

[From the press review program for 20 May]

[Text] NHAN DAN today frontpages the excerpt of an article: "President Ho Chi Minh Lives Forever in Our Revolutionary Cause," written by comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh for the Soviet paper PRAVDA to commemorate Uncle Ho's birth centenary.

The article says in part: President Ho Chi Minh chose the path of developing socialism after Vietnam had regained its independence and freedom. This is a scientific choice in conformity with the Vietnamese people's aspiration and interest. It is also the choice made through Uncle Ho's profound and concrete realization of the cruel, wicked nature of colonialism, imperialism, and the disadvantages of capitalism. The choice was also in conformity with the era's inevitable developing trend which stemmed from the Great October Revolution—the transition period from capitalism to socialism. However, as happened in history, this transition period will proceed complicatedly in diversified forms including some temporary and partial failures on its advance path.

We have witnessed struggles in this transition period by countries in all continents of our planet. These are the struggles for renovating socialism and not its collapse. Although socialism may face temporary, certain losses in some regions, history will still advance further in accordance with the law discovered by historical materialism.

Conference Held on Mekong Committee's Work

BK2005094690 Hanoi VNA in English 0825 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 19—A conference entitled "Mekong Day" took place here on May 17-18 under the auspices of the Vietnam Mekong Committee to review the committee's work over the past 12 years under the Interim Mekong Committee Programme.

Among those present at the event were Nguyen Canh Dinh, minister of water conservancy, Dinh Gia Khanh, vice-minister of the Vietnam Mekong Committee, and David Smith, resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme in Vietnam.

Addressing the conference, Dinh Gia Khanh said over the past years the Vietnam Mekong Committee (VMC) has received more than 15,100,000 U.S. dollars as aid from foreign countries and international bodies to carry out the program.

In the years to come, he said, the VMC plans to intensify basic surveys and researches on natural resources and environment, the zoning of the Mekong Delta region and then the Central Highlands bordering on the Lower Laos and the Dien Bien region bordering on the Upper Laos. In furtherance of the Interim Mekong Committee's programme the VMC will carry out researches on the Lower Mekong reaches. "Many countries including Holland, Australia and Belgium have invested in Vietnam via the Interim Mekong Committee," Dinh Gia Khanh further said.

J. Kam and David Smith expressed the satisfaction over the Vietnam Mekong Committee's operation and its cooperation with other countries and international organizations.

Cooperation Noted

BK2505104990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] The Vietnam Mekong Committee recently held a conference in Hanoi to review its tasks over the past 12 years and to discuss cooperation programs for the future. Mr. (Carl), executive secretary [not further specified], and Mr. Smith, representative of the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] in Hanoi attended the conference.

The conference noted the abundant sources of water from the Mekong River, with a total annual capacity of 475 billion cubic meters measured at Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Water from the Mekong River ensures the irrigation of more than six million hectares of two-crop ricefields. The total cultivated area is 10 million hectares. The Mekong River is also a source of aquatic products and hydroelectric power exploitation. The river, however, is the source of flash floods that affect five million hectares of land annually.

Since its establishment in 1978, the Vietnam Mekong Committee has received active cooperation from various member branches, especially in coordinating research work between Vietnam and international agencies. Vietnam has formulated a general plan for developing the Mekong River Delta. This has been the largest project sponsored by the UNDP during the period 1987-91. It is the first economic strategy research project carried out by this UN organization as far as long-term state plans are concerned.

In implementing annual programs of the Mekong project, it is necessary to strengthen work coordination to facilitate the general plan. The fulfillment of this project will contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of formulating our strategy for socioeconomic development as well as for creating favorable conditions for our country to promote investment from and cooperation with foreign countries. To enhance the efficacy of the Mekong project, the conference stressed that it is necessary to continue strengthening work coordination and promote exchanges of views between the International Mekong Committee Secretariat and the Vietnam Mekong Committee.

Vo Chi Cong's Letter on Calamity Control Day

BK2305113990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 21 May 90

[Letter from Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State, to the people, cadres, combatants, workers, and civil servants taking part in controlling natural calamities; date not given]

[Text] Dear compatriots and comrades: On the occasion of the first traditional day of controlling natural calamities, 22 May 1990, on behalf of the party and state, I would like to convey my cordial regards and warm greetings to our people, cadres, combatants, workers, and civil servants in all sectors and at all levels who have taken part in controlling natural calamities. I also convey regards to all flood and typhoon control forces and organizations and all cadres and members of dike management teams in the water conservancy sector—including comrades who have now retired or transferred to other sectors—who have contributed voluminously to this task in our country during the past.

Our nation's glorious history is a process of heroic and unremitting struggle against foreign aggression and natural calamities for national construction and defense. Our party and state have decided to use 22 May as Vietnam's traditional day of controlling natural calamities in recognition of the achievements recorded in this field by many generations in the past. This is to encourage our people, cadres, and combatants throughout the country to constantly develop their heroic tradition and uphold their sense of responsibility in the struggle for the control of natural calamities in all parts of the country from now on.

On this occasion, I would like to warmly commend our people, cadres, combatants, workers, and civil servants throughout the country for their great efforts and achievements in numerous aspects of this task. I also would like to warmly commend our overseas Vietnamese for their constant attention to and support for the process of controlling natural calamities in our country.

On behalf of our state and people, especially our compatriots in the localities devastated by natural calamities in the past years, I would like to sincerely thank various countries, international organizations, and individuals for their emergency, generous, and humanitarian aid, that had enabled many localities to quickly and promptly overcome its aftermaths.

Dear compatriots and comrades: To build a prosperous and powerful Socialist Republic of Vietnam and to bring about an abundant, free, and happy life for the people as esteemed President Ho Chi Minh wished, we still have to struggle even more vigorously in this domain to gradually limit the losses caused by these calamities in terms of human life and material wealth, thus making positive contributions to the process of renovation and stabilizing the country's socioeconomic life. The forces responsible for the control of natural calamities in all sectors and at all levels must be consolidated and gradually equipped with more suitable facilities in an effort to keep up with modern science and technology. I hope that all party organizations, administrative echelons, and mass and social organizations, together with our people throughout the country, will pay still greater attention to building up and consolidating the forces responsible for controlling natural calamities in all sectors and at all levels, thus making them truly strong and capable of readily and effectively dealing with the calamities under all circumstances.

May our people, cadres, combatants, workers, civil servants, and natural calamity control committees at all levels and in all sectors unite and closely coordinate with each other in the struggle to outstandingly fulfill their glorious duties. My salutation of cordiality and determination to win.

Officials Attend Dang Viet Chau's Funeral

BK2505034190 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 24—A state funeral was held here today for Dang Viet Chau, former vice premier of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and a deputy of the National Assembly from the first to sixth legislature, who died here on May 21 at the age of 76.

State Council President Vo Chi Cong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi, and other high-ranking party and government officials paid floral tributes to Dang Viet Chau and expressed sympathy with the bereaved family.

The mourners included members of diplomatic corps in Hanoi.

Fiji

Government Rejects Bougainville Independence

BK2505100290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0939 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Suva, May 25 (AFP)—Fiji on Friday [25 May] became the third South Pacific country to reject the declaration of independence last week by rebels on Papua New Guinea's Bougainville Island. A statement by acting Prime Minister Josevata Kamikamica said Suva "totally rejects" the Bougainville Revolutionary Army's move to set up a separate republic on the copper-rich island.

It said the May 17 declaration, which capped a 16-month secessionist war that left more than 80 people dead, was an internal matter for the Port Moresby government to handle.

No country has so far recognised the declaration of independence on Bougainville. Vanuatu and Kiribati also issued statements this week rejecting the move. Australia, New Zealand and the United States issued their own rejections within hours of the Bougainville rebels' proclamation.

Strike by Indians Protests Embassy Closure

BK2505043090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0424 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Suva, May 25 (AFP)—Fiji's ethnic Indians launched a national strike Friday [25 May] in protest against the government's move to close down the Indian Embassy here. A spokesman for the Indian-dominated chamber of commerce said nearly 70 percent of Indian-owned shops and Indian-run schools were closed throughout the Pacific island state where ethnic Indians make up nearly half the 727,000 population. But foreign-owned multinationals and Chinese businesses were open as usual, he said.

Other reports said that in the capital Suva most Indian-run bus services and taxis were running and many Indian public servants were at work. Indian political leader Balwant Singh Rakka told reporters that "Indians had responded in more numbers than was expected." "The government should take heed of this," he said.

Indian leaders had called the one-day strike to protest against Suva's decision on Wednesday to close the Indian Embassy and give its staff 14 days to quit the country. The embassy closure was sparked by New Delhi's announcement two weeks ago that it would step up international pressure to force Fiji to adopt a more democratic constitution following the 1987 coups here that toppled an Indian-dominated regime. The Army-installed interim government has drafted a proposed constitution aimed at guaranteeing indigenous Fijians political dominance over ethnic Indians.

Acting Prime Minister Josevata Kamikamica on Friday warned New Delhi, which has had a diplomatic war with Suva since the coups, not to cut diplomatic ties with Fiji in retaliation for the embassy's closure. "If India in its sovereign right decided to sever relations with Fiji, the interim government would reciprocate," he said. He urged striking ethnic Indians to unite against "political and economic aggression from a foreign country" and "pledge their loyalty to their new found home in Fiji."

Further on Strike

BK2505094390 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0803 GMT 25 May 90

[From the program "International Report"]

[Excerpt] In Fiji, Fiji Indians have staged a one-day stay-at-home protest against the interim government decision to close the Indian Embassy. The protest was called by seven Indian community organizations. South Pacific correspondent, Jemimah Gareth, says it has its greatest impact in the Indian-dominated cities in Fiji's West.

[Begin Gareth recording] The Indian Embassy was ordered to close after complaints from the Fiji Government about its tough stand against the post-coup regime, in particular, its opposition to Fiji's readmission to the Commonwealth, its trade ban against Fiji, and its new determination to take its opposition to Fiji's draft constitution to the international fora.

Fiji's information minister said the government could not sit idly by while India carried out unwarranted and unfriendly act. He pointed out that the action had been taken against India and not against Fiji's Indian community. But, for the Indian community which makes up almost half of the population, those assurances did not provide much comfort. Indian leaders saw the decision as another measure designed to hurt the dignity of their people and called for its immediate withdrawal. To underline their point, they called on their supporters to stay away from work today.

In Fiji's second city, Lautoka, and in the western towns of Singatoka, Nadi, Ba, and Rakiraki, Indian shops and businesses were closed, the majority of schools were shut, public transport was reduced, and Indian workers did not turn out for work in the sugar mills. Richard Nadu, a journalist with Radio Station FM 96 says the protest was not as pronounced in the capital. [passage omitted] [end recording]

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